

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave Blank)	2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED	
	May 9, 1986	Final	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE A Comparative English-Chinese Dictionary of Military Terms			5. FUNDING NUMBERS
6. AUTHOR(S) Ronald E. Dolan			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Federal Research Division Library of Congress Washington, DC 20540-4840			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) N/A			10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Prepared under an Interagency Agreement			19960426 069
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.		12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) This publication is a reference aid for significant military terms as interpreted and defined by the People's Republic of China. For each entry, the English-language heading is followed by the simplified Chinese characters used in China, their pinyin romanization, and their standard telegraphic codes (STC). An authoritative Chinese definition is given when available. This is followed by a commentary in which available official Soviet and United States definitions for the term are included for comparative purposes; concepts and terminology are clarified as necessary.			
14. SUBJECT TERMS China Military terminology		15. NUMBER OF PAGES 161	16. PRICE CODE
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT UNCLASSIFIED	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT SAR

NSN 7540-01-280-5500

Standard Form 298 (Rev. 2-89)
Prescribed by ANSI Std Z39-18
298-102



A COMPARATIVE ENGLISH-CHINESE DICTIONARY OF MILITARY TERMS

*A Report Prepared under an Interagency Agreement
by the Federal Research Division,
Library of Congress*

October 1985

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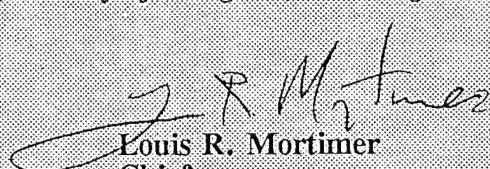
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PREFACE

This publication is intended as a reference aid for significant military terms as interpreted and defined by the People's Republic of China (PRC). For each entry, the English-language heading is followed by the simplified Chinese characters used in China, their pinyin romanization, and their standard telegraphic codes (STC). An authoritative Chinese definition is given when available. This is followed by a commentary in which available official Soviet and United States definitions for the term are included for comparative purposes, and concepts and terminology are clarified as necessary.

The 1965 Shanghai edition of the Ci Hai, revised and updated in 1979, has been consulted as the primary source of authoritative Chinese definitions for the terms. Where there is a significant difference, the definitions from both the 1965 and 1979 editions are given. The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms, published in 1965 and translated by the Translation Bureau of the Canadian Secretary of State Department, under the auspices of the US Air Force, is the source of Soviet definitions for the terms. United States definitions are taken from the Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (JCS Pub. 1, 1984).

All materials used in the preparation of this report are drawn from open sources. Sources for the Chinese definitions are listed in the left column in abbreviated form. Other sources are cited in the text when they are used. The terms are arranged alphabetically according to the English-language headings. Entries are indexed separately according to the pinyin romanizations of the Chinese terms. A detailed bibliography is also included.

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Chinese (pinyin romanization)	
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DICTIONARY

1

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ACTIVE DEFENSE

积极防御

Jíjí Fángyù [4480 2817 7089 1785]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4008)

It is also called 攻勢防御 gōngshì fángyù (2396 0528 7089 1785) 'offensive defense' or 決戰防御 juézhàn fángyù (0414 2069 7089 1785) 'decisive engagement defense.' It is defense for the purpose of counterattacking or attacking. While on the defensive, [the troops] actively take up offensive operations to wear down and wipe out the enemy.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:3) defines active defense as "the employment of limited offensive action and counterattacks to deny a contested area or position to the enemy."

See also:

PASSIVE DEFENSE

消极防御

Xiāojí Fángyù [3194 2817 7089 1785]

ACTIVE DUTY

现役

Xiànyì [3807 1763]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2760)

The military service conducted by a citizen from the date that he enters the service until the date that he is discharged.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:3) defines active duty as "full-time duty in the active military service of the United States. A general term applied to all active military service with the active force without regard to duration or purpose."

ADVANCE

前进

Qiánjìn [0467 6651]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ADVANCE FORCE

先遣部队

Xiānqiǎn Bùduì [0341 6680 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:1) defines advance guard as "a detachment proceeding at a fixed distance ahead of the main body of a marching formation (unit) in order to protect the troops making the march, to safeguard them from surprise attack by hostile ground forces, and to ensure suitable conditions for the main body to deploy and enter the battle."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:6) defines advanced guard as "the leading element of an advancing force. The primary mission is to insure the uninterrupted advance of the main body. It has the following functions: a. to find and exploit gaps in the enemy's defensive system; b. to prevent the main body of the advancing force running blindly into enemy opposition; and c. to clear away minor opposition or, if major opposition is met, to cover the deployment of the main body."

The advance force is the unit sent ahead of the main body to make initial contact with the enemy and reconnoiter the enemy situation in preparation for an attack by the main body. It bears many similarities to the advance guard in the United States and Soviet armies.

AERODYNAMIC MISSILE

飞航式导弹

Fēiháng Shì Dǎodàn [7378 5300 1709 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:255) A guided missile which relies on the thrust of its engine(s) and the lift produced by its wings to fly in the atmosphere. Its engines are air jet engines.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:7) defines aerodynamic missile as "a missile which uses aerodynamic forces to maintain its flight path, generally employing propulsion guidance."

AERONAUTICAL MOVEMENT

航空运动

Hangkōng Yundòng [5300 4500 6663 0520]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:3673) It is one part of National Defense Physical Training. Its most important elements include flying, gliding,

parachuting, and aeronautical models. The aeronautical movement disseminates and popularizes aeronautical scientific and technical knowledge among the broad masses, especially the youth, and trains reserve personnel in aviation.

Commentary

Since Aeronautical Movement, as part of the National Defense Physical Training Movement, is uniquely Chinese, it is not included in either the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms or the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

Aeronautical Movement is listed as one element of the National Defense Physical Training Movement as defined in the 1979 edition of the Ci Hai, but this edition does not contain a separate definition for this term.

AIRBORNE FORCE

空降兵

Kōngjiàng Bīng [4500 7100 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4104)

It is the arm which carries out airborne operations. [The troops] can either be dropped by parachute or landed by aircraft. If they are dropped by parachute, they can also be called 伞兵 sǎnbīng (0270 0365) 'paratroopers.' They possess a high degree of mobility and can suddenly appear in the enemy's rear area and coordinate military operations with the front line troops. Their basic duties include capturing and holding important objectives and areas in the enemy's deep defense; coordinating with the front line troops in surrounding and annihilating the enemy; destroying enemy command organizations, guided missile and nuclear weapons installations, and rear area supply; and supporting the troops and guerrilla forces fighting in the enemy's rear area.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:11) defines airborne forces as "composed primarily of ground and air units organized, equipped, and trained for airborne operations."

AIRBORNE OPERATION

空降作战

Kōngjiàng Zuòzhàn [4500 7100 0155 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4103)

A type of military operation with paratroopers or other forces dropping on enemy territory. It is divided into paradrops and aircraft landings. In paradrops, a parachute is used to land on the ground; aircraft landings entail traveling by aircraft and landing directly on the ground. In carrying out a large-scale airborne operation, paratroopers usually land first and prepare a landing field, and then the aircraft land. When conditions permit, paradrops and aircraft landings can be carried out simultaneously.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:46) defines airborne operation as "actions coordinated and interrelated by a single concept and plan, involving airborne troops, the air force, missile forces, air defense forces, and in a maritime sector, the navy, in connection with the transfer, landing (dropping), and support of large airborne assault forces in the enemy rear, to attain operational and strategic objectives."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:11) defines airborne operation as "an operation involving the air movement into an objective area of combat forces and their logistic support for execution of a tactical or a strategic mission. The means employed may be any combination of airborne units, air transportable units, and types of transport aircraft, depending on the mission and the overall situation."

AIR DEFENSE

防空

Fángkōng [7089 4500]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:945)

Various combat and protective measures adopted against an enemy air raid. It includes the establishment of an air surveillance net, the destruction of the enemy's air raiding force and weapons, the dispersal and concealment of personnel and property, the camouflage of important materiel, and the organization of firefighting and rescue [units]. It is divided into territorial air defense, field air defense, and people's air defense. The main missions of territorial air defense are to guard against the violation of national airspace and to safeguard militarily important national assets.* The main mission of field air defense is to cover operations of the land (and sea) forces. People's air defense mobilizes and organizes the popular masses to resist enemy air raids, accomplish various protective measures, and clear away the aftermath of air raids.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:176) defines air defense as "defense against the air enemy. A distinction is made between unit air defense, naval air defense, and national air defense. Unit air defense is the complex of combat operations of the various air defense forces and weapons at the disposal of strategic formations or major field forces (or formations) of ground troops, conducted for the purpose of repulsing strikes by enemy aviation and missile units against troops and their rear installations, in coordinated action with national air defense forces. National air defense is the aggregate of nationwide measures to provide active protection for vitally important regions and installations of the country against air attack. The air defense of the country is accomplished primarily by national air defense forces who carry out the mission of defeating the enemy in the air in coordinated action with all the other services. Naval air defense is accomplished by national air defense forces and air defense weapons of ships, in coordinated action with the forces and facilities of ground troop air defense units. Under contemporary conditions, air defense includes antiaircraft, antimissile, and antispace defense."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:14) defines air defense as "all defensive measures designed to destroy attacking enemy aircraft or missiles in the earth's envelope of atmosphere, or to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attack."

*The Chinese term is 目标 mùbiāo (4158 2871), which literally means "target, objective." However, in this context, "military asset" seems to be a more appropriate translation.

AIR DEFENSE MISSILE

防空导弹

Fángkōng Dǎodàn [7089 4500 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:947)

Guided missiles used to strike enemy aerial targets (such as aircraft and guided missiles). It includes such guided missiles as ground-to-air missiles, ship-to-air missiles and antiballistic missiles.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

AIR DISTRICTS

空军区

Kōngjūnqū [4500 6511 0575]

Definition

No definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

There are seven air force districts in the People's Republic of China, covering the same areas as the military regions.

AIR FORCE

空 军

Kōngjūn [4500 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4102)

The armed force which fights in the air. It is usually made up of various types of aviation units and air force surface units. It has aerial assault, long distance warfare, and high speed mobility capabilities. It is the primary force in air warfare and aerial assaults on enemy surface targets and an important force in antiair warfare. It can carry out joint operations with the ground forces and the navy as well as fight independently. The Air Force of the Chinese People's Liberation Army was established in 1949, on the foundation of the ground forces, and has grown in strength through combat.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:39) defines air force as "a Service of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, including long-range aviation, frontal aviation and military transport aviation. The Air Force is intended for combined operations with the other Services of the armed forces and for air operations."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

AIR STRATEGY

空 军 战 略

Kōngjūn Zhànlüè [4500 6511 2069 3970]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Air strategy is a specific air force application of the general military strategy of the People's Republic of China.

AIR SUPERIORITY

制空权

Zhìkōngquán [0455 4500 2938]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:424)

When one side in a war is able to control the initiative at a certain time in a certain airspace. [The side] which attains this superiority can limit the opposing force's military operations and can prevent or reduce the number of air raids suffered by its own forces and main military assets.* Air superiority is attained by the air arm and other arms' destroying the opposing air raiding force and weapons and smashing the opposition's airbases and guided missile bases.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:171) considers air superiority a foreign term which it defines as "having an air force whose capabilities are such as to ensure a high level of activity and freedom of action during a definite period of time, either throughout the theater of operations as a whole, or in individual sectors."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:21) defines air superiority as "that degree of dominance in the air battle of one force over another which permits the conduct of operations by the former and its related land, sea, and air forces at a given time and place without prohibitive interference by the opposing force."

*The Chinese term is 目标 mùbiāo (4158 2871), which literally means "target, objective." However, in this context, "military asset" seems to be a more appropriate translation.

AIR SUPPORT

陆空协同作战

Lù Kōng Xiétóng Zuòzhàn [7120 4500 0588 0681 0155 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:3) defines air support as "air force combat operations conducted for the purpose of helping ground forces to achieve success in battle (in an operation). Air support is provided by the centralized forces and facilities of fighter-bombers, bombers, and winged missiles with a view to annihilating the enemy's nuclear-attack facilities, his nearest reserves and command posts detected by reconnaissance, as well as important objectives on the field of battle which for some reason cannot be destroyed by unit weapons on the ground. In an attack, air support begins when our own troops go over to the attack, and in defense when the enemy troops begin their attack, and it continues throughout the entire period of combat operations."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:21) defines air support as "all forms of support given by air forces to forces on land or sea."

AIR TACTICS

空军战术

Kōngjūn Zhàntù [4500 6511 2069 2611]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

AIR TRANSPORTABLE FORCE

空运部队

Kōngyùn Budui [4500 6663 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not contain a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:23) defines air transportable units as "those units, other than airborne, whose equipment is adapted for air movement."

AMPHIBIOUS FORCES

登陆作战部队

Dēnglù Zuòzhàn Budui [4098 7120 0155 2069 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:27) defines amphibious force as "1. a naval force and landing force, together with supporting forces that are trained, organized, and equipped for amphibious operations. 2. In naval usage, the administrative title of the amphibious-type command of a fleet."

AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION

登 陆 作 战

Dēnglù Zuòzhàn [4098 7120 0155 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4149)

A military operation which consists of a military force crossing the sea and making an opposed landing on an enemy beach. It is usually a coordinated land, sea, and air advance. The object is to attack and occupy the enemy beach and consolidate the beachhead in order to create [favorable] conditions for subsequent operations.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:27) refers to an amphibious operation as combat for an amphibious assault landing and defines it as "an offensive battle in a coastal region, involving penetration of the enemy's antilanding defense, both on the water and on shore, seizure of a beachhead (port), and landing thereon (therein) all the troops pending assignment of onshore missions to them; combat activities of ground forces or a naval infantry assault force, in coordination with other types of services (Air Force, Navy, Air Defense), when landed in the enemy's rear from the sea or from the air."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:27) defines amphibious operation as "an attack launched from the sea by naval and landing forces, embarked in ships or craft involving a landing on a hostile shore."

AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT FORCE

登 陆 输 送 队

Dēnglù Shūsòngduì [4098 7120 6551 6623 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4149)

A temporary formation made up of landing and transport ships and their escorts. Their mission is to transport a landing force and its materials for a landing on an enemy beach.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

AMPHIBIOUS UNIT (LANDING FORCE)

登 陆 支 队

Dēnglù Zhidui [4098 7120 2388 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:67) defines landing force as "troops intended for landing, or which have already landed, on enemy-occupied territory, for the purpose of conducting combat operations. According to the transportation method used, a landing force may be amphibious, airborne, or combined; and according to its scale and purpose, such a force may be strategic, operational, or tactical."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:205-206) defines landing force as "a task organization of troop units, aviation and ground, assigned to an amphibious assault. It is the highest troop echelon in the amphibious operation."

AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE

登 陆 战

Dēnglùzhàn [4098 7120 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

See:

AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION

登 陆 作 战

Dēnglù Zuòzhàn [4098 7120 0155 2069]

ANTIATOMIC (WARFARE)

防 原 子

Fángyuánzì (7089 0626 1311)

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:946)

An abbreviated form for 核武器防护 hé wǔqì fánghù [2702 2976 0892 7089 6233] "protection against nuclear weapons." It includes various types of protective measures adopted against enemy nuclear weapons strikes. The principal methods include: constructing protective fortifications; the use of terrain and surface features to disperse and conceal personnel and materials; organizing observation, reporting, and radiation reconnaissance efforts; the use of protective equipment; and such measures for clearing up the after-effects of a strike as organizing rescue, firefighting and radiation decontamination efforts. The most effective protective measure is the timely detection and destruction of enemy nuclear weapons.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term. The Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:254) does define nuclear defense as "the methods, plans, and procedures involved in establishing and exercising defensive measures against the effects of an attack by nuclear weapons or radiological warfare agents. It encompasses both the training for, and the implementation of, these methods, plans, and procedures." The same source on page 300 defines radiological defense as "defensive measures taken against the radiation hazards resulting from the employment of nuclear and radiological weapons."

ANTIBACTERIOLOGICAL (WARFARE)

防 细 菌

Fángxìjūn (7089 4798 5497)

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:743)

Various protective measures adopted against bacteriological weapons attacks. The principal measures include: organizing efforts to observe, reconnoiter, and warn of enemy bacteriological weapons attacks; launching mass sanitation and antiepidemic efforts to wipe out germ breeding conditions; and preventive inoculation of people and livestock to eliminate germ-induced communicable diseases. The most effective protective measure is the timely detection and destruction of enemy bacteriological weapons.

Ci Hai (1979:946)

Protective measures adopted against enemy biological weapons attacks. The principal measures are: to expeditiously detect and distinguish the circumstances of an enemy biological weapon attack and report it to the troops and the masses; to carry out prompt treatment of contaminated personnel and livestock; to decontaminate contaminated and infested areas; and to launch mass sanitation and antiepidemic efforts and exterminate pestilence and disease. The most effective protective measure is the timely detection and destruction of enemy biological weapons.

Commentary

The early definition from the 1965 edition of the Ci Hai goes into greater detail in listing preventive measures to be taken before an enemy biological weapons attack.

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:207) defines means of antibacteriological protection as "individual and collective means of protection against infection, and bacterial preparations which increase the immunity of personnel to infectious diseases, namely: antibiotics and other medicinal preparations used for emergency prophylaxis; instruments and apparatus for conducting bacteriological reconnaissance; machines and instruments for decontamination and disinfection."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

ANTICHEMICAL (WARFARE)

防 化 学

Fānghuàxué (7089 0553 1331)

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:946)

Protective measures adopted against an enemy chemical weapons attack. The principal measures include: the construction of airtight protective fortifications equipped with poison-filtering ventilation systems; the organization of observation, reporting, and reconnaissance efforts against enemy chemical weapons attacks; and the use of various types of antitoxin equipment and carrying out decontamination at the proper time. The most effective protective measure is the timely detection and destruction of enemy chemical weapons.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:207) defines means of antichemical protection as "means intended to protect troops against weapons of mass destruction. They may be individual or collective."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

ANTITANK GUIDED MISSILES

反 坦 克 导 弹

Fǎntánkè Dǎodàn [0646 0982 0344 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:610)

A missile used to destroy enemy tanks. It usually is propelled by a solid fuel rocket and can be fired from the ground, vehicles or aircraft.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ANTITANK STRATEGY

防 坦 克 战 略

Fángtánkè Zhànlüè [7089 0982 0344 2069 3970]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Antitank strategy is a specific aspect of the general People's Liberation Army military strategy.

ANTITANK TACTICS

防 坦 克 战 术

Fángtánkè Zhànsù [7089 0982 0344 2069 2611]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Antitank tactics is a specific aspect of the general People's Liberation Army military tactics.

ARMED FORCES

部 队

Budui [6752 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1036)

1. A common term for armed forces such as field armies and local forces.
2. It specifically refers to forces above the regimental level.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:50) defines armed forces as "the aggregate of the various Services of the armed forces. Each Service of the armed forces consists of branches (arms), and also of special troops and services. In capitalist states, armed forces are the weapon of class domination, the means of enslaving small states and colonial peoples, and the principal support for conducting an aggressive foreign policy. The armed forces of the Soviet Union and the people's democracies are the bulwark of peace, and are intended to defend their own people and their national independence against the aggression of imperialist states."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:35) defines armed forces as "the military forces of a nation or a group of nations." The same source (pp. 151-52) has a related definition for force, which is defined as "an aggregation of military personnel, weapon systems, vehicles and necessary support, or combination thereof."

See:

ARMED FORCES

军 队

Jundui [6511 7130]

ARMED FORCES

军 队

Jundui [6511 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:665)

The armed force organized for political service. It is an important instrument of class dictatorship. There are two completely different types of armed forces in the world. One type is a revolutionary armed force which is used to safeguard the people's interests, overthrow the rule of the reactionary class, establish and safeguard revolutionary political power, safeguard state sovereignty and territorial integrity and security, and combat wars of aggression. The other type is a counterrevolutionary armed force which is used to uphold the interests of the counterrevolutionary class, oppress and enslave the people, suppress revolutionary movements, preserve colonial rule, and carry out wars of aggression.

Ci Hai (1979:850)

The armed force which performs political duties. It is an important component of state power. There are two completely different types of armed forces in the world: one type is a revolutionary armed force which is used to safeguard the people's interests, overthrow the rule of the reactionary class, establish and safeguard state sovereignty and territorial integrity and security, and combat wars of aggression. The other type is a counterrevolutionary armed force which is used to uphold the interests of the counterrevolutionary class, oppress and enslave the people, suppress revolutionary movements, preserve colonial rule, and carry out wars of aggression.

Commentary

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See also:

ARMED FORCES

部队

Budui [6752 7130]

ARMED FORCES

武装部队

Wǔzhuāng Budui [2976 5944 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

See:

ARMED FORCES

武装力量

Wǔzhuāng Liliang [2976 5944 0500 6852]

ARMED FORCES

武装力量

Wǔzhuāng Liliang [2976 5944 0500 6852]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2625) A general term for a nation's regular forces and other armed organizations.

Ci Hai (1979:1646) A general term for a nation's regular forces and other armed organizations. The armed forces of the People's Republic of China make up the unified system of the field armies, the local forces, and the militia. The armed forces of the People's Republic of China are commanded by the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.* Their basic duties are

*In accordance with the 1982 Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the 1984 Military Service Law of the People's Republic of China, the armed forces come under the purview of the Ministry of National Defense and the State and Party Central Military Commissions.

to safeguard the socialist revolution and socialist construction, to protect the national sovereignty and territorial integrity and security, and to guard against subversion and aggression by the social imperialists, the imperialists, and their running dogs.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:50) defines armed forces as "the aggregate of the various services of the armed forces. Each service of the armed forces consists of branches (arms), and also of special troops and services. In capitalist states, armed forces are the weapon of class domination, the means of enslaving small states and colonial peoples, and the principal support for conducting an aggressive foreign policy. The armed forces of the Soviet Union and the people's democracies are the bulwark of peace, and are intended to defend their own people and their national independence against the aggression of imperialist states."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:35) defines armed forces as "the military forces of a nation or a group of nations."

ARMED SERVICE

军 种

Jūnzhǒng [6511 4429]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:851)

The basic classification of the armed forces. Normally they are divided into three services: ground force, navy, and air force. Each service also consists of several service arms.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ARMORED FORCE

装 甲 兵

Zhuāngjiābīng [5944 3946 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4387)

A combat arm which uses tanks, self-propelled artillery, and armored transport vehicles as basic equipment. It is characterized by firepower and mobility as well as armor protection and is an important assault force of the ground forces. In joint operations, it usually carries out maneuver warfare.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ARMY

军

Jun [6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:850)

1. Army, as in Red Army; Liberation Army. It is also used as a general term for military matters, as in military situation; military orders.
2. A level in the organization of the armed forces. It is made up of several divisions and a certain number of combat and support units (elements). They are designated as ground force armies, air force armies, etc., on the basis of their mission and equipment.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:10-11) defines army as "1. an operational grouping of one or another Service of the armed forces, consisting of several formations of various branches and special troops, and intended for the conduct of operations (combat activities); 2. ground troops (forces); 3. sometimes the word army is used to designate the armed forces of a State, e.g., the Red Army or the Soviet Army.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

ARMY EMBLEM

军徽

Jūnhūi [6511 1798]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:666)

Armed forces insignia. The design for the emblem of Chinese People's Liberation Army was promulgated by order of the Chinese People's Revolutionary Armymen's Committee on 15 June 1949. It has a gold-edged five-point red star with the two words "August 1st" inlaid in gold, to indicate that since the Chinese People's Liberation Army was founded in the Nanchang Uprising on 1 August 1927, it has illuminated China with the light of its brilliant star.

Ci Hai (1979:851)

Armed forces insignia. The emblem of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a gold-edged five-point red star with the two words "August 1st" inlaid in gold.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ARTILLERY

炮兵

Paobīng [3517 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3566)

The arm which has artillery and rockets as its basic equipment and uses firepower to carry on warfare. It is composed of surface artillery and antiaircraft artillery. It has great firepower, relatively long range, good accuracy, a rather high degree of mobility and is an important firepower assault force in combat. It is used principally to support and cover the combat operations of the infantry and the armored force, to fight in coordination with other services or arms, or

to provide independent firepower. Artillery has a long history in China. As early as the Yung Le period (1403-1424) of the Ming Dynasty, the capital army had a rather large-scale and important unit which used cannons in combat (at that time called 'The Divine Machine Battalion'). The Chinese People's Liberation Army Artillery was born in the 'August 1' Nanchang Uprising in 1927, constantly grew in strength, and played a useful part during the successive revolutionary wars. After the founding of the nation, the development of the artillery entered a new stage of development.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:12) defines artillery as "one of the service branches possessing great fire power."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:143) defines field artillery as "equipment, supplies, ammunition, and personnel involved in the use of cannon, rocket or surface-to-surface missile launchers. Field artillery cannons are classified according to caliber as:

light - 120 mm and less;
medium - 121 to 160 mm;
heavy - 161 to 210 mm;
very heavy - greater than 210 mm."

ASSAULT

突 击

Tūjū [4499 2345]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4108) The concentration of troops and firepower on the enemy in carrying out a swift and fierce attack.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:234) defines assault as "a decisive attack by subunits, units, or formations, on an enemy occupying built-up areas, strongly reinforced positions, separate buildings, etc., and offering stubborn resistance."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:37) defines assault as "(1) the climax of an attack; closing with the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting; (2) in an amphibious operation, the period of time between the arrival of the major assault forces of the amphibious task force in the objective area and the accomplishment of the amphibious task force mission; (3) to make a short, violent, but well-ordered attack against a local objective, such as a gun emplacement, a fort, or a machinegun nest; (4) a phase of an airborne operation beginning with delivery by air of the assault echelon of the force into the objective area and extending through attack of assault objectives and consolidation of the initial airhead."

ASSAULT FORCE

突 击 部 队

Tuji Budui [4499 2345 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ATOMIC BOMB

原 子 弹

Yuanzi Dan [0626 1311 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:346)

A weapon which uses the enormous amount of energy instantaneously released from the fission of the nucleus of a heavy atom to cause casualties and destruction. Its principal components are the nuclear charge (such as uranium 233, uranium 235, and plutonium), the igniter, the neutron source, the reflective layer, and the casing. When the detonation of the igniter causes the nuclear charge to exceed the critical mass, a chain reaction of nuclear fission is set

off through the action of the neutron. This releases an enormous amount of energy in a very short period of time and a violent explosion occurs.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ATTACK

攻 击

Gōngjī [2396 2345]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

攻 击 Gōngjī "attack" is used in both a military and a nonmilitary sense.

进 攻 Jìngōng "attack" is a specific military term.

See:

ATTACK

进 攻

Jìngōng [6651 2396]

ATTACK

进 攻

Jìngōng [6651 2396]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2384)

One of the basic forms of combat. It is an operation in which the troops initiate an assault on the enemy. It is an important means of annihilating the enemy.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:13) defines attack as "the most important element in the tactical activities of air, naval, and ground forces, constituting a combination of swift maneuver and fire (strike) aimed at enemy personnel and weapons for the purpose of their annihilation. An attack by ground forces is carried out immediately following nuclear and conventional weapons strikes and is culminated by the utter defeat of the enemy and by capture of his defensive areas and structures. An air attack is a rapid action by aircraft against the enemy for the purpose of firing or striking at close range. Annihilation of hostile aircraft in the air during an air attack is accomplished by fighter aviation. A torpedo (missile) attack is the maneuvering of a warship (aircraft) for the purpose of assuming a favorable position and firing torpedoes (missiles) at the target."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

进攻 Jingōng "attack" is a specific military term. Another term, 攻击 gōngjī "attack," is used in both a military and a nonmilitary sense.

See also:

ATTACK

攻击

Gōngjī [2396 2345]

AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

编 制

Biānzhì [4882 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2719)

The regulations governing the organizational system of the armed forces and the allotment of personnel and equipment to each unit.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BALLISTIC MISSILE

弹道式导弹

Dàndǎo Shì Daodàn [1734 6670 1709 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2501)

Shortened to 弹道导弹 dàndǎo daodàn [1734 6670 1418 1734]. A guided missile in which the warhead follows a predetermined trajectory to the target after it is delivered to the specified altitude at a specified speed by rocket engine(s) and the engine has shut off.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:18) defines ballistic missile as "the most important weapon in nuclear warfare. The trajectory of a ballistic missile consists of an active phase and a passive phase. During the active phase, the missile is propelled by its motor's thrust, and is guided by a self-contained [autonomous] or combined guidance system. During the passive phase, the missile flies along a so-called ballistic curve."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:46) defines ballistic missile as "any missile which does not rely upon aerodynamic surfaces to produce lift and consequently follows a ballistic trajectory when thrust is terminated."

BATTALION

营

Yíng [3602]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3722) A level in the organization of the armed forces below the regiment and above the company.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BATTLE

战斗

Zhandou [2069 2435]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:20-21) considers battle a historical term and defines it as "a decisive encounter of the main forces of the belligerent parties, the results of which not infrequently determine the outcome of a campaign or a stage of a war. 'Battle' is an ancient Russian term equivalent to the more recent term 'general engagement.' A battle is the aggregate of a number of simultaneous and successive decisive engagements of the main strategic groupings of the belligerent parties in the most important strategic sectors or theaters of military operations. These engagements are united by singleness of purpose and concept, and distinguished by great intensity; they lead to the destruction of the enemy's main forces in a given strategic sector or theater of war and to the mastery of the most important strategic objectives. A battle on such a scale changes the correlation of forces and creates a turning point in the war. A battle is fought by several coordinated major field forces, supported by a concentrated airpower, considerable artillery reserves, and armored and other troops. World War II saw battles that were unprecedented in military history: the Battle of Moscow in 1941, Volgograd in 1942, Kursk in 1943, etc."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

BATTLEFIELD DISCIPLINE

战 场 纪 律

Zhanchang Jilü [2069 1034 4764 1774]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3094)

The discipline of the armed forces in combat. The combat discipline of the Chinese People's Liberation Army requires that all of the servicemen resolutely carry out orders, obey commands, look out for the interests of the people in the combat zone, turn in what is captured, and strictly abide by the prisoner of war policy.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BATTLEFIELD TRAINING

战 场 练 兵

Zhanchang Lianbing [2069 1034 4886 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3094)

Technical and tactical training carried out before the battle or between battles by troops on the battlefield based on operational duties and such circumstances as the terrain and the enemy situation.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BIVOUAC

军事野营

Jūnshí Yéyíng [6511 0057 6851 3602]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853)

It is one element in the Ground Movement and an activity for national defense education and military training for the broad masses, especially the youth. The participants are organized into quasi-military companies which go camping and engage in spare time activities. It includes comprehensive training, concentrating on marksmanship, use of terrain and land features, and antiair, antiautomic, and antichemical warfare; or training concentrating on a particular type of military technology.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BLOCKING FORCE

阻击部队

Zǔjī Buduì [7091 2345 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BLOCKING WARFARE

阻击战

Zūjīzhàn [7091 2345 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:991)

A type of defensive warfare the object [of which] is to block the attack, reinforcement, or escape of the enemy, to ensure that the main force annihilates the enemy or to cover the deployment or shift of the main force.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:21-22) defines blockading as "isolation (encirclement) of a strong point (objective) or a grouping of enemy troops offering continued resistance. Blockading is carried out by limited forces from the first echelon. Annihilation of the blockaded enemy may be effected by part of the first echelon, by the second echelon, or by reserves. Nuclear weapons may also be used for this purpose."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

BLUE WATER NAVY

远洋海军

Yuānyáng Hǎijūn [6678 3152 3189 6511]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BORDER DEFENSE

邊 防

Biānfáng [6708 7089]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2366) Military measures adopted in the border areas to safeguard the national sovereignty and territorial integrity and security, and guard against an external invasion.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

BRIGADE

旅

Lǚ [2464]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3547) In ancient China 500 soldiers comprised a brigade. Later it was used as the name of a unit in the armed forces organization below the division and above the regiment (or battalion). It is also used as a general designator for armed forces.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:29) defines brigade as "a formation of troops from different service branches and special troops from the various Services, consisting of several battalions (artillery battalions) and special subunits. There are motor rifle brigades, motor transport brigades, railroad brigades, etc."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:57) defines brigade as "a unit usually smaller than a division to which are attached groups and/or battalions and smaller units tailored to meet anticipated requirements."

CAMOUFLAGE

伪装

Weižhuāng [0298 5944]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:509)

Measures taken to conceal oneself and confuse the enemy. Usually it is divided into natural camouflage and manmade camouflage. The main types of natural camouflage use terrain, ground features, weather and climatic conditions. Manmade camouflage uses such technical means as deceptive colors, smokescreens, lights, and sounds for concealment or to construct false targets, false fortifications, or false lines.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:118) defines camouflage as "a form of support for combat operations, its purpose being to conceal the activities and disposition of friendly troops, and to mislead the enemy with regard to the grouping and intentions of such troops. Camouflage measures are also implemented in the deep rear, within the framework of civil defense."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:60) defines camouflage as "the use of concealment and disguise to minimize the possibility of detection and/or identification of troops, materiel, equipment, and installations. It includes taking advantage of the natural environment as well as the application of natural and artificial materials."

CAMP

营

Yíng [3602]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3722)

A place where troops are stationed, as in "pitching camp."

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:60) defines camp as "a group of tents, huts, or other shelter set up temporarily for troops, and more permanent than a bivouac. A military post, temporary or permanent, may be called a camp."

See also:

BATTALION

营

Ying [3602]

CARRIER ROCKET

运载火箭

Yunzai Huojian (6663 6528 3499 4628)

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2389)

A rocket which delivers an artificial celestial body or spacecraft into a predetermined orbit. It is normally a multistage carrier rocket. After the last stage rocket has delivered the artificial celestial body or spacecraft to the predetermined orbit, it sometimes also revolves in a definite orbit and is not immediately destroyed by falling into the atmosphere. When this occurs, it also becomes an artificial celestial body.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

CAVALRY

骑兵

Qibing [7494 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2175) The force that fights on horseback. Their principal weapons are the carbine, the saber, light and heavy machineguns, and light artillery. They have a definite speed and assault capability and can fight both on horseback and on foot. They normally assume such missions as pursuit and attack, interception, and long-range raids, as well as reconnaissance and alert.

Ci Hai (1979:2618) The force that fights on horseback. They can fight both on horseback and on foot. They normally assume such missions as pursuit and attack, interception, and long-range raids, as well as reconnaissance and alert.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

CHIEF OF STAFF

參謀長

Cānmóuzhǎng [0639 6180 7022]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:871) A position in the armed forces. In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, forces at the regimental or equivalent level and above all have chiefs of staff. The chief of staff is the senior officer of the command organ and the principal aide to the force commanders in their military duties.

Ci Hai (1979:1096) A position in the armed forces. In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, forces at the regimental level and above all have chiefs of staff. The chief of staff is the senior officer of the headquarters and the principal aide to the force commanders in their military duties.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:66) defines chief of staff as "1. The senior or principal member or head of a staff, or the principal assistant in a staff capacity to a person in a command capacity; 2. The head or controlling member of a staff, for purposes of the coordination of its work; 3. A position, that in itself is without inherent power of command by reason of assignment, except that which is invested in such a position by delegation to exercise command in another's name. Note: a. In the Army and Marine Corps, the title is applied only to the staff on a brigade or division level or higher. In lower units, the corresponding title is executive officer. b. In the Navy, the title is applied only on the staff of a commander with rank of commodore or above. The corresponding title on the staff of a commander of rank lower than commodore is chief staff officer, and in the organization of a single ship, executive officer. c. In the Air Force, the title is applied normally in the staff on an Air Force level and above."

CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENT

化 学 战 斧

Huàxuézhànji [0553 1331 2069 0495]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:347)

A general term for toxic, smoke-producing, or incendiary agents used in warfare. Toxic agents can poison people and animals and influence the activity of the troops; smoke-producing agents can create a smoke screen covering troop movements and important military assets*; incendiary agents can burn people and animals and destroy fortifications and property.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:65) defines chemical agent as "a chemical substance which is intended for use in military operations to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate man through its physiological effects. Excluded from consideration are riot control agents, herbicides, smoke, and flame."

*The Chinese term is 目 标 mùbiāo (4158 2871), which literally means "target, objective." However, in this context, "military asset" seems to be the better English term.

Chemical warfare agent is not defined in the 1979 edition of Ci Hai.

CHINESE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY

中 国 人 民 解 放 军

Zhōngguó Rénmín Jiefàngjūn [0022 0948 0086 3046 6043 2397 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3246)

The armed forces of the People's Republic of China. It is commanded by the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.* It is a people's army, founded and led by the Chinese Communist Party, armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, and serves the people wholeheartedly. It is the firm pillar of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The Chinese People's Liberation Army was born in the 1 August 1927 Nanchang Uprising. In April 1927, Chiang Kaishek's Kuomintang betrayed the revolution. The Chinese Communist Party continued to hold high the banner of revolution and struck back against the massacre policy of the Kuomintang reactionaries and led the people in carrying out an armed uprising to oppose armed counterrevolution with armed revolution. On 1 August 1927, the Northern Expeditionary Army of over 30,000 men under the influence of the Party and led by Zhou Enlai, Zhu De, He Long, Ye Ting, and Liu Bocheng carried out an armed uprising at Nanchang. On 9 September of the same year, Mao Zedong led the Autumn Harvest Uprising carried out with peasants, workers, and revolutionary soldiers in the Hunan-Jiangxi border region, established the first worker peasant revolutionary army, and set up the first rural revolutionary base--the Jinggang Mountain Base. In April 1928, part of the remnants of the Nanchang Uprising force and the Hunan Uprising peasant army were led to the Jinggang Base by Zhu De and Chen Yi and triumphantly joined forces with the Autumn Harvest Uprising force led by Mao Zedong to form the Chinese Workers and Peasants Fourth Red Army. Henceforth, the

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insurrectionary forces throughout the country were called the Chinese Worker Peasant Red Army. In the Second Revolutionary Civil War Period, the Chinese Worker Peasant Red Army grew to 300,000 men, established several revolutionary bases with a combined population of over 10 million centered in central Jiangxi, and smashed several large-scale 'encirclements and suppressions' of the Kuomintang Army. Later, because of the mistaken leadership of Wang Ming's 'left' leaning opportunist line, the Red Army was unable to break the enemy's fifth 'encirclement and suppression' and was forced to withdraw to the original base and carry out the Long March. After the January 1935 Zunyi Conference, the Red Army, under the correct leadership and direction of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Mao Zedong, victoriously completed the world famous 25,000 li Long March. After the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance broke out, they were redesignated the Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army, marched to the front of the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance, persevered in independent guerrilla warfare with the initiative in their own hands, established popular anti-Japanese resistance bases with a population of over 100 million in the enemy's rear area, beat back over 60 percent of the invading Japanese army and over 90 percent of the puppet army, and became the mainstay of the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance. In 8 years, they carried out over 120,000 large and small battles, destroyed over 1,700,000 Japanese and puppet troops, grew to a strength of 1,200,000 and played a decisive part in the ultimate victory of the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance. During the Third Revolutionary Civil War Period, its name was changed to the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Together with the people of the entire nation, it resolutely beat back the attacks of the Kuomintang forces, shifted to a countrywide attack, annihilated over 8 million Kuomintang troops, and ended the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang. After the People's Republic of China was established, the Chinese People's Liberation Army continued to carry out combat duties, wiping out the remnants of the enemy, and protecting the national defense; and at the same time, undertook the duties of a work force, actively participating in the socialist revolution and socialist construction. As the Chinese People's Liberation Army grows in strength, it always follows the political and military line established by the Chinese Communist Party and Mao Zedong, implements the system of the Party committee leadership, the political commissar system, and the political works system. [It also] carries on the integration of theory with practice, [maintains] close ties with the masses, and

[displays] a work style of criticism and self-criticism. It carries out the three great duties of warfare, work with the masses, and production; develops political, economic and military democracy; implements the three great principles of unity between officers and men, unity between the army and the people, and disintegration of the enemy forces. It complies with the three great disciplines and the eight attentions; uses flexible strategy and tactics; and develops indomitable heroism and [maintains] the fine tradition of hard work and plain living. Therefore, this army becomes ever stronger in war, proceeding from one victory to the next. The Chinese People's Liberation Army at present is made up of the ground, naval, and air forces. Its basic duties are to protect the socialist revolution and socialist construction; safeguard the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security; and guard against subversion and aggression from the social imperialists, the imperialists, and their running dogs.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

COASTAL DEFENSE

海 防

Hǎifáng [3189 7089]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2154)

All military measures taken along the coast and in territorial seas to safeguard national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security, and to guard against an external invasion.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:19) defines coastal defense as "the aggregate of naval combat forces and facilities concentrated on the coast and organized into a special defensive system to provide cover for important operational sectors and to provide protection for particular objectives on the given coastline, islands, or skerries (including adjacent waters), against sea, air and, land attack."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:71) defines coastal frontier defense as "the organization of the forces and materiel of the armed forces assigned to provide security for the coastal frontiers of the continental United States and its overseas possessions."

COMBAT INTELLIGENCE

战 斗 情 报

Zhàndòu Qíngbào [2069 2435 1906 1032]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1991)

The People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for combat intelligence but defines intelligence as the results derived from the use of reconnaissance methods or other means to gather [information on] the enemy military, political, or economic situation and the analysis and research of this information. It is an important basis for military operations.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for intelligence or combat intelligence.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:188) defines intelligence as "the product resulting from the collection, processing, integration, analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of available information concerning foreign countries or areas." It defines combat intelligence (p. 74) as "that knowledge of the enemy, weather, and geographical features required by a commander in the planning and conduct of combat operations."

See also:

RECONNAISSANCE

侦 察

zhēnchá [0259 1390]

COMMAND

指揮

Zhihui [2172 2264]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1586) The leadership exercised by a military leader in military operations.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:76) defines command as "the authority that a commander in the military service lawfully exercises over subordinates by virtue of rank or assignment. Command includes the authority and responsibility for effectively using available resources and for planning the employment of, organizing, directing, coordinating, and controlling military forces for the accomplishment of assigned missions. It also includes responsibility for health, welfare, morale, and discipline of assigned personnel."

COMMANDER

司令員

Silíngyuán [0674 0109 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:243) A position in the armed forces, such as military region commander or army commander. In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, commanders and political commissars at each level are both armed forces leaders with joint responsibility for troop activities. Commanders are responsible for directing the military activities of the troops under the leadership of the Party committee at the same level as well as the Party committee and military commanders at higher levels.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF

总 司 令

Zǒngsīlìng [4920 0674 0109]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:673) The military commander of the armed forces of the entire nation or one front.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

COMMUNICATIONS

通 信

Tōngxìn [6639 0207]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:79) defines communications as "a method or means of conveying information of any kind from one person or place to another."

COMPANY

连

Lian [6647]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2390) A level in the organization of the armed forces below the battalion and above the platoon.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE SYSTEM

义务兵役制

Yiwu Bingyizhi [5030 0523 0365 1763 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:744) The system by which citizens of a certain age are obliged according to law to carry out a certain period of military service. The People's Republic of China promulgated a military service law in 1955 and began to implement a system of compulsory military service. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates that it is the lofty duty of every citizen to defend the motherland and resist aggression. To carry out military service according to the law is a citizen's glorious duty.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

CONSCRIPTION SYSTEM

征 兵 制

Zhēngbīngzhì [1767 0365 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:1491)

The system by which citizens of a certain age are called up to serve a prescribed period of military service. The Chinese conscription system is generally recognized to have begun in 356 B.C. and gradually perfected in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220). Most of that period's feudal imperial dynasties used conscription as a simple method to augment their military manpower resources. After the prefectoral military service system was established (535-551), the conscription system was abandoned. After the Tang Dynasty (618-907), it was changed to a mercenary system. During the rule of the Kuomintang, they imitated the conscription system of the Capitalist countries and promulgated a military service law, but the so-called conscription system implemented at that time was really a system of seizing soldiers.

Ci Hai (1979:1828)

The system by which the State, as stipulated in the military service law, calls up a certain number of citizens as needed to carry out their military service. After the People's Republic of China was established, it promulgated a military service law in 1955 and implemented a conscription system.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

CONVENTIONAL WARFARE

正 规 战

Zhèngguī Zhàn [2973 6016 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3124) Mobile or positional warfare conducted by regular troops. It is characterized by a centralized unified command, closely coordinated operations, and organized planned logistic support.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

CORPS

兵团

Bīngtuán [0365 0957]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:657) 1. A unit in the armed forces organization at a level equivalent to group army. It has several subordinate armies or divisions.
2. A general designator for armed forces above the division level.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

COUNTERASSAULT

反冲击

Fanchóngjī [0646 0394 2345]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:606-7) Also called 反冲锋 fánchōngfēng [0646 0394 6912], it is an assault carried out within tactical

limitations against an enemy who has broken through the lines while the troops are engaged in defensive warfare. It is a positive means of wiping out the invading enemy and restoring the position.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The Chinese distinguish between the counterattack (see) which takes place on the campaign (see military campaign) level and the counterassault which takes place on the tactical level (see military tactics).

COUNTERATTACK

反 攻

Fǎngōng [0646 2396]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

反 攻 Fǎngōng "counterattack" is commonly used in both a military and a nonmilitary sense. 反 突 击 Fǎntūjī "counterattack" is a specific military term.

See:

COUNTERATTACK

反 突 击

Fǎntūjī [0646 4499 2345]

COUNTERATTACK

反 突 击

Fǎntūjī [0646 4499 2345]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:607)

During the defensive stage, the use of second echelon or reserve forces as the principal force within the scope of the campaign in counterattacking an enemy who has broken through the lines, in order to help destroy the invading enemy and restore the original defensive situation.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:104) defines counterattack as "an attack undertaken by defending troops against an attacking enemy for the purpose of putting him to rout (or destroying him) and achieving complete or partial restoration of the position lost by the defending troops. A counterattack is usually mounted by the second echelons and reserves of units and formations and also by part of the forces of the first echelon from sectors not under attack."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:93) defines counterattack as "attack by a part or all of a defending force against an enemy attacking force, for such specific purposes as regaining ground lost or cutting off or destroying enemy advance units, and with the general objective of denying the enemy the attainment of his purpose in attacking. In sustained defensive operations, it is undertaken to restore the battle position and is directed at limited objectives."

The Chinese distinguish between the counterattack which takes place on the campaign level (see military campaign) and the counterassault which takes place on the tactical level (see military tactics).

反突击 Fǎntūjī "counterattack" is a specific military term. Another term, 反攻 fǎngōng "counterattack," is commonly used in both a military and a nonmilitary sense.

See also:

COUNTERATTACK

反攻

Fǎngōng [0646 2396]

DAGGER COMPANY

尖刀连

Jiāndāo Lián [1423 0430 6647]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2551)

A company which is responsible for carrying out assaults in a battle to storm fortifications. Normally it is undertaken by a fortified company with a rather high combat effectiveness. In a battle to storm fortifications, it acts like a sharp dagger, first inserting itself into the enemy position and then making a breach to create the conditions for developing the attack.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

DECEPTION

欺 骗

Qīpiàn [2952 7499]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:86) defines deception as "a decoy grouping of troops or dummy objects, false movements and disposition of troops, dummy defensive works, etc., for the purpose of misleading the enemy about the true disposition or activities of friendly troops, and of drawing his fire against the dummy objectives. Simulation is carried out with the aid of mock-ups of materiel, dummy works, and also signs of vital activity of the troops being simulated (firing, radio conversations, etc.). Simulation is also done by demonstrative activities, misinformation, etc. Simulation on an operational scale is carried out only on the instructions of a higher echelon of military command."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:105) defines deception as "those measures designed to mislead the enemy by manipulation, distortion, or falsification of evidence to induce him to react in a manner prejudicial to his interests."

It defines military deception (p. 230) as "actions executed to mislead foreign decision-makers, causing them to derive and accept desired

appreciations of military capabilities, intentions, operations, or other activities that evoke foreign actions that contribute to the originator's objectives."

DEFENSE

防 御

Fāngyù [7089 1785]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:742)

A basic type of combat [in which] the troops resist enemy attack. It is used when it is impossible or inadvisable to launch an attack. Because of their inferior strength, defensive forces usually use terrain to construct fortifications and use firepower and resolute counterattack to wear down and exterminate the enemy in order to create the conditions for shifting to the offensive or to assist another front in attacking.

Ci Hai (1979:945)

A basic type of military formation [in which] the troops resist enemy attack. Defense is directly for self-preservation. At the same time, it is also a means of assisting an attack or preparing to shift to the offensive.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:135) defines defense as "a type of combat operation conducted for the purpose of repulsing an attack mounted by superior enemy forces, causing heavy casualties, retaining important regions of the terrain, and creating favorable conditions for going over to a decisive offensive. Defense is based on strikes by nuclear and all other types of weapons; on extensive maneuver with fire, forces, and weapons; on counterattacks (or counterstrikes) with simultaneous stubborn retention of important regions which intercept the enemy direction of advance; and also on the extensive use of various obstacles. Defense makes it possible to gain time and to effect an economy in forces and weapons in some sectors, thereby creating conditions for an offensive in others."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

See also:

ACTIVE DEFENSE

积 极 防 御

Jíjí Fángyù [4480 2817 7089 1785]

PASSIVE DEFENSE

消 极 防 御

Xīaojí Fángyù [3194 2817 7089 1785]

DEMOBILIZATION

复 员

Fùyuán [1788 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:468)

1. The conversion of an armed force from a wartime to a peacetime status with a reduction in size and the discharge of a large number of personnel from active duty.
2. The discharge of military personnel from active duty, because obligated service is completed or for other reasons.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:67) defines demobilization as "release of service personnel from the armed forces at the end of a war. In a broader sense, demobilization means the transition of the armed forces and all sectors of the economy from a war footing to a peacetime footing."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

DEMOBILIZED SERVICEMAN

复 员 军 人

Fùyuán Jūnrén [1788 0765 6511 0086]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:471)

Demobilized servicemen of the Chinese People's Liberation Army specifically designates cadres or enlisted personnel of the armed forces who are discharged from active duty and are demobilized to return home and participate in the revolution and construction.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

VETERAN

退 伍 军 人

Tuìwǔ Jūnrén [6622 0124 6511 0086]

DEPLOY

展 开

Zhǎnkāi [1455 7030]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2459-60) The movement of troops from a development to a battle formation.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:189) defines deployment as "(1) creation of the groupings of missile troops, ground troops, air forces, naval forces, and national air defense forces and facilities, needed to carry on an armed conflict; (2) adoption of an operational structure and combat formations for conducting an operation or fighting a battle; (3) implementation of mobilization measures for the assembly of major field forces or strategic formations, and for regrouping formations and units into larger entities; (4) occupation of areas in a sector of impending action; (5) a change in structure, i.e., a transition from one state to another. Deployment of armed forces (troops) may be strategic, operational, or tactical."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:111) defines deployment as an "(1) act of extending battalions and smaller units in width, in depth, or in both width and depth to increase its readiness for contemplated action; (2) in naval usage, the change from a cruising approach or contact disposition to a disposition for battle; (3) in a strategic sense, the relocation of forces to desired areas of operation; (4) designated location of troops and troop units as indicated in a troop schedule."

The Chinese use deploy here in a tactical sense, indicating that troops are to be moved from their position in other areas or from movement along routes previously designated by the commander into a position to engage the enemy.

See also:

DEPLOYMENT

部署

Bushu [6752 5002]

DEPLOYMENT

部署

Bushu [6752 5002]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1037)

The differentiation and disposition carried out by senior officers on their troops based on combat determinations, as in battle deployment, campaign deployment, and strategic deployment.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:189) defines deployment of armed forces as "1. creation of the groupings of missile troops, ground troops, air forces, naval forces, and national air defense forces and facilities, needed to carry on an armed conflict; 2. adoption of an operational structure and combat formations for conducting an operation or fighting a battle; 3. implementation of mobilization measures for the assembly of major field forces or strategic formations, and for regrouping formations and units into larger entities; 4. occupation of areas in a sector of impending action; 5. a change in structure, i.e., a transition from one state to another. Deployment of armed forces (troops) may be strategic, operational, or tactical."

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See also:

DEPLOY

展开

Zhankai [1455 7030]

DETACHMENT

支队

Zhidui [2388 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3037)

1. An organization in the armed forces corresponding to a regiment or division (brigade), such as an independent detachment, a guerrilla detachment, or a naval detachment.
2. A temporary group organized in time of battle, such as an advance detachment.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:149) defines detachment as "1. a temporary unification of ground troop (or naval) units or subunits (sometimes even individual servicemen) for completion of a particular or special mission (security, seizure of a beachhead or bridgehead, reconnaissance, setting obstacles, etc.); 2. in frontier troops, a military unit."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:113) defines detachment as "1. a part of a unit separated from its main organization for duty elsewhere. 2. A temporary military or naval unit formed from other units or parts of units."

DETERRENT FORCE

威慑力量

Weishe Liliang [1218 2042 0500 6852]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:3182)

What the American Imperialists call their aggressive forces and various weapons of mass destruction, such as their strategic air force and navy, nuclear weapons, and long-range guided missiles. It reflects the American Imperialists' fear of the growing Socialist power and the upsurge in popular revolutions throughout the world; and their vain hope of depending on so-called 'new-style weapons' to make armed threats and even launch wars of aggression to forestall their imminent doom.

Ci Hai (1979:3791)

What the imperialists call their various weapons and armed forces capable of mass destruction, such as nuclear weapons, long-range missiles and strategic air force and navy.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for deterrence or deterrent force.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:114) defines deterrence as "the prevention from action by fear of the consequences. Deterrence is a state of mind brought about by the existence of a credible threat of unacceptable counteraction."

The Chinese use the term deterrent force to deprecate the sophisticated weapons and forces of the technologically advanced Western nations. This definition has been considerably toned down in the 1979 edition of the Ci Hai, and the specific reference to "American Imperialists" has been changed to the more general term "imperialist."

DIVISION

师

Shi [1597]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:137)

A level in the organization of the armed forces. It is normally subordinate to the army and is generally comprised of several regiments (or brigades) and a certain number of combat and support elements. According to their mission and equipment, they are divided into infantry divisions, motorized infantry divisions, artillery divisions, tank divisions, aviation divisions, airborne divisions, naval infantry divisions, etc.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:68-69) defines division as "the basic tactical formation of the various service branches (arms), consisting of several units and subunits. In foreign armies, a ground forces division consists of brigades, combat groups, individual battalions, and other units and subunits of various branches and special troops."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:118) defines division as "1. a tactical unit/formation as follows: a. a major administrative and tactical unit/formation which combines in itself the necessary arms and services required for sustained combat, larger than a regiment/brigade and smaller than a corps; b. a number of naval ships of similar type grouped together for operational and administrative command, or a tactical unit of a naval aircraft squadron, consisting of two or more sections; c. an air division is an air combat organization normally consisting of two or more wings with appropriate service units. The combat wings of an air division will normally contain similar type units. 2. An organizational part of a headquarters that handles military matters of a particular nature, such as personnel, intelligence, plans and training, or supply and evacuation. 3. A number of personnel of a ship's complement grouped together for operational and administrative command."

DOCTRINE

教令

Jiaoling [2403 0109]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3362)

Principles similar to regulations or derived from experience, such as flying doctrine.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

DRILL MANUAL

操典

Cǎodian [2347 0368]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1631) A book stipulating the main points and principles of military procedures, such as the infantry manual and the cavalry manual.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ELEMENT

分队

Fēnduì [0433 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:627) 1. An organization in the armed forces corresponding to a platoon or squad.
2. A unit below the battalion level in the armed forces.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:129) defines element as "the smallest subdivision of a military unit that can be tactically maneuvered independently."

ENLISTED (FIGHTER)

战士

Zhàndòuyuán [2069 2435 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2589) Rank and file soldiers, such as riflemen, machine-gunners, artillerymen, tankmen, signalmen, scouts, and sailors, who participate directly in combat.

Ci Hai (1979:3093) A common term for a soldier in the armed forces.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ENLISTMENT SYSTEM

志愿兵制

Zhiyuānbīngzhì [1807 1959 0365 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1212) The system for voluntarily joining the army. The people's armed forces led by the Chinese Communist Party continuously implemented an enlistment system during the period of successive revolutionary wars and after the establishment of the People's Republic of China until 1954. Voluntary enlistees have served for a long time in the armed forces. In 1955 a system of compulsory military service was begun. Since 1978 a combined compulsory and voluntary military system has been in effect. Some extended service conscripts, based on the needs of the service and their own desires, change their status to enlistees and remain in the military for long-term service.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ENSIGN

军旗

Jūnqí [6511 2475]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:666)

Armed forces flag. The flag of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a red background with a golden five-point star and the two words "August 1st" inscribed in the upper left-hand corner, indicating that under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese People's Liberation Army has undergone a long period of struggle since it was founded in the Nanchang Uprising on 1 August 1927, and illuminated the entire country with the light of its brilliant star. An ensign is conferred on all units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army at the regimental level or higher.

Ci Hai (1979:851)

Armed forces flag. The flag of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a red background with a golden five-point star and the two words "August 1st" inscribed in the upper left-hand corner.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

EXTENDED SERVICE

超期服役

Chāoqí Fùyì [6389 2601 2591 1763]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4464)

The extension of military service, based on the needs of the service and his own desires, by a soldier who has completed his obligatory military service.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

FEINT

佯 攻

Yánggōng [0162 2396]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for feint, it is a traditional Chinese tactic dating back to Sun Wu (ca. 500 B.C.) and reiterated in Mao Zedong's December 1936 military work, Problems of Strategy in China's Revolutionary War, and subsequent Chinese military writings.

FIELD ARMY

野 战 军

Yézhàn Jūn [6851 2069 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4500)

A regular army which carries out mobile warfare. During the period of the third revolutionary civil war in China, the Central Revolutionary Military Commission of the Chinese Communist Party divided the armed forces of the People's Liberation Army in each large strategic region into 3 types: field armies, local forces, and guerrilla forces. Based on the area where they were located, the field armies were organized into the Chinese People's Liberation Army Northwest Field Army, Central Plains Field Army, East China Field Army, Northeast Field Army, and North China Field Army. Each field army had a certain number of subordinate armies. Later the Northwest Field Army became the First Field Army, the Central Plains Field Army became the Second Field Army, the East China Field Army became the Third Field Army, the Northeast Field Army became the Fourth Field Army, and the various armies of the North China Field Army became directly subordinate to the General Headquarters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965) does not include a definition for field army, but does include a related definition (p. 143) for major field force. Major field force is defined as "an operational and organizational entity in the different Services, including formations of various service branches (or forces), intended for the conduct of operations. Besides the forces intended to engage in combat operations, a major field force or strategic formation has command and control elements and facilities, rear services, support services, etc."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:143) defines field army as "administrative and tactical organization composed of a headquarters, certain organic Army troops, service support troops, a variable number of corps, and a variable number of divisions."

FIELD TRAINING

野 营 训 练

Yeying Xunlian [6851 3602 6064 4886]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4501) Training carried out in the field by troops who have left their station.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:143) defines field exercise as "an exercise conducted in the field under simulated war conditions in which troops and armament of one side are actually present, while those of the other side may be imaginary or in outline."

FIRE AND MANEUVER

火 力 与 机 动

Huǒlì Yǔ Jīdòng [3499 0500 5280 2623 0520]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

FIRST STRIKE (FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS)

首 先 使 用 核 武 器

Shǒuxiān Shǐyòng Héwǔqì [7445 0341 0169 3938 2702 2976 0892]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:147) defines first strike as "the first offensive move of a war. (Generally associated with nuclear operations.)"

The Chinese have repeatedly said that they will not be the first to use nuclear weapons but are only developing nuclear weapons for defensive purposes.

FIRST STRIKE (NUCLEAR ATTACK)

核子突击

Hezǐ Tūjī [2702 1311 4499 2345]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:236) refers to nuclear offensive as a foreign term and defines it as "the first air and missile operation in the initial period of a war, conducted simultaneously in all theaters in accordance with a unified strategic plan, involving the greatest possible quantity of strategic and tactical weapons of nuclear attack."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:147) defines first strike as "the first offensive move of a war. (Generally associated with nuclear operations.)"

FORWARD DEFENSE

前方防御

Qiánfāng Fángyù [0467 2455 7089 1785]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

FRONT ARMY

方 面 军

Fāngmiànjūn [2455 7240 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3537) A level in the organization of the armed forces. It has several subordinate group armies (corps) or armies.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

FRONTAL ATTACK

正 面 攻 击

Zhèngmiàn Gōngjī [2973 7240 2396 2345]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:155) defines frontal attack as "an offensive maneuver in which the main action is directed against the front of the enemy forces."

The Chinese employ a direct frontal attack only when their forces enjoy numerical superiority (at least 3:1) and no gaps can be found in the enemy flanks or rear.

FRONTAL DEFENSE

正面防禦

Zhèngmiàn Fángyù [2973 7240 7089 1785]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

GARRISON COMMAND

警备区

Jǐngbèi Qū [6226 0271 0575]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:916)

A region designated by the armed forces for organization of guard and garrison duties in a certain city or region. It either has a leading body or the duties are taken on by the military organ stationed in the locality. It is responsible for military guard and garrison duties in the region and works in coordination with the locality to maintain public order and uphold military conduct and discipline.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Jingbei Qū refers specifically to the garrison commands in Shanghai and Tianjin.

See also:

GARRISON COMMAND

卫戍区

Weishù Qū [5898 2050 0575]

GARRISON COMMAND

卫戍区

Weishù Qū [5898 2050 0575]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:925)

A region designated by the armed forces for organization of guard and garrison duties in a certain area. It has a leading body and is responsible for military security in the area, coordinating with the locality in maintaining order, upholding military conduct and discipline, and organizing other garrison duties.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Weishù Qū refers specifically to the capital garrison command in Beijing.

See also:

GARRISON COMMAND

警备区

Jingbei Qū [6226 0271 0575]

GARRISON FORCE

守备部队

Shoubēi Buduì [1343 0271 6752 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2287)

An armed force responsible for guarding a militarily important location, such as a force for guarding an island, a fortification, or an important city.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:157) defines garrison force as "all units assigned to a base or area for defense, development, operation, and maintenance of facilities."

GENERAL MOBILIZATION

总动员

Zǒng Dòngyuán [4920 0520 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:519)

An emergency measure by which the country shifts all of the armed forces from a peacetime condition to a wartime condition and unifies the dispatching, command, and management of all available personnel and materiel, placing them at the disposal of the military. In China, general mobilization is determined by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and promulgated by the President of the People's Republic of China.

Ci Hai (1979:673)

The country's shifting of all of the armed forces from a peacetime condition to a wartime condition and unifying the dispatching, command, and management of all available personnel and materiel, as well as placing political, economic, and cultural activities at the disposal of the military.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:125) defines mobilization as the "transition of the armed forces from peacetime to wartime tables of organization and equipment. Mobilization deployment includes bringing units up to strength with personnel, combat materiel, armament, and transport; providing troops* (navy, air force personnel) with all types of personal belongings, rations and provisions, fuels and lubricants; assigning permanent force personnel to activate new subunits, units, and formations; bringing naval vessels into commission from a state of preservation [i.e. mothballing], and conscripting merchant vessels for naval duty; and, also, organizing the prompt departure of mobilized troops for their operational destinations."

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:126) defines general mobilization as "the transition of all armed forces, civil defense, and the national economy to a wartime footing."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:238) defines mobilization as "(1) the act of preparing for war or other emergencies through assembling and organizing national resources; (2) the process by which the armed forces or part of them are brought to a state of readiness for war or other national emergency. This includes assembling and organizing personnel, supplies, and materiel for active military service."

The three countries define general or full mobilization in a similar manner. It is worthy of note that while in the 1965 edition of the Ci Hai the Chinese outlined the specific procedure for implementing general mobilization, this procedure is not mentioned in the 1979 edition of the Ci Hai. The office of President of the People's Republic of China was omitted from the 1975 and 1978 Constitutions of the People's Republic of China. The 1982 Constitution reinstated the office of President of the People's Republic of China and empowered the holder of that office to order mobilization.

GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

总政治部
Zongzhengzhibu [4920 2398 3112 6752]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:674,853) A shortened form for the People's Liberation Army General Political Department. [The Department] is the

*Unless otherwise specified "troops" means ground forces and all components thereof.

highest leadership organization under the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and its Military Commission for administering the Party work of the armed forces and organizing and carrying out the political work of the entire military. [Military political work] was founded by Mao Zedong and is the life line of the People's Liberation Army. Its basic duties are raising high the great banner of Mao Zedong Thought; upholding the absolute leadership of the Party over the military; adhering to the use of Marxism-Leninism - Mao Zedong Thought in educating the troops; preserving the proletarian nature of the People's Liberation Army; implementing the Party's guiding principles, line, and general and specific policies; safeguarding the highly centralized unity and strict discipline of the troops; strengthening the internal and external unity of the armed forces; increasing the combat effectiveness of the troops; and leading and guaranteeing the completion of all the tasks entrusted to the People's Liberation Army by the Party and the country.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

In the high command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the General Political Department is on a par with the General Staff Department and the General Logistics (Rear Services) Department and is responsible for the complete politicization of the People's Liberation Army.

GENERAL STAFF DEPARTMENT*

总参谋部

Zǒngcānmóubù [4920 0639 6180 6752]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

*This term is translated as "Headquarters of the General Staff" in Wu Jingrong's The Chinese-English Dictionary compiled in the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:56) defines general staff as "the central authority controlling the armed forces of a state. The primary mission of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR is to work out problems relative to the defense of the USSR against armed attack by imperialist states."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms has no term equivalent to the Chinese General Staff Department.

The high command of the People's Liberation Army is divided into the General Staff Department, the General Political Department, and the General Logistics (Rear Services) Department. The General Staff Department performs the staff and operational functions not covered by the General Political Department or the General Logistics Department.

GROUND FORCES

陆军

Lujun [7120 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:949)

The armed force which fights on land. Modern ground forces are usually made up of the infantry, the artillery, the armored force, the engineer corps, the railway engineering corps, and various specialized forces. It can fight independently or with the navy and the air force, and is an important service for thoroughly annihilating the enemy and determining ultimate victory. The ground forces of the Chinese People's Liberation Army have accomplished various arduous and complicated military duties in the successive revolutionary wars. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the air force and the navy were established on the foundation laid by the ground forces.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

GROUND MOVEMENT

陸上運動

Lushang Yundong [7120 0006 6663 0520]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:952)

It is one part of the National Defense Physical Training Movement. Its most important elements include marksmanship, motor vehicles, and radios. By means of the Ground Movement the broad masses come to grasp general military knowledge and skills, and related technology. [This] increases defense strength.

Commentary

Since Ground Movement, as part of the National Defense Physical Training Movement, is uniquely Chinese, it is not included in either the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms or the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

GROUP

大隊

Dadui [1129 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1424)

An organization in the armed forces corresponding to a battalion or regiment, such as a guerrilla group, bomber group or torpedo boat group.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:163) defines group as "1. A flexible administrative and tactical unit composed of either two or more battalions or two or more squadrons. The term also applies to combat support and service support units. 2. A number of ships and/or aircraft, normally a subdivision of a force, assigned for a specific purpose."

GROUP ARMY

集 团 军

Jítuānjūn [7162 0957 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4604) A level in the organization of the armed forces. It has a certain number of subordinate armies or divisions.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

GUERRILLA FORCES

游 击 队

Youjíduì [3266 2345 7130]

Ci Hai (1979:2240) A type of unconventional armed organization established by oppressed classes and nationalities to fight for their liberation. Usually they are organized simply, lightly armed, and their operations are flexible. With the participation and support of the broad masses, they carry out guerrilla warfare in the enemy's rear area and in areas controlled by the enemy. They attack the enemy, destroy the enemy's political power, and establish and expand revolutionary base areas. They are an important organic element in carrying out people's warfare.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:153) uses the term partisan which it defines as "national volunteers who fight against occupational forces on territory usurped by the enemy, and who rely on extensive support from the local population."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:164) defines guerrilla as "a combat participant in guerrilla warfare."

GUERRILLA WARFARE

游击战

Yóujízhàn [3266 2345 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:1847) A type of warfare adopted by a popular revolutionary armed force in dealing with a stronger enemy. It is characterized by: decentralized small force operations, intimate unity with the popular masses, and the use of surprise attacks and ambushes. It tends to be more offensive and have more battles of quick decision and greater flexibility than regular warfare. Its basic principle is: when the enemy advances, we retreat; when the enemy encamps, we harass; when the enemy is exhausted, we attack; when the enemy retreats, we pursue.

Ci Hai (1979:2240-41) Warfare in which the militia, guerrilla troops, or guerrilla forces organized from the regular forces, closely united with the popular masses, carry out quick mobile raids on the enemy. It is a form of warfare by which a popular revolutionary armed force achieves victory over a powerful enemy.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:153) calls guerrilla warfare partisan operations and defines it as "military operations by armed groups, detachments, and whole formations of volunteers from the local population, or the armed forces, which are waged in enemy rear areas by making surprise attacks on individual garrisons or columns of moving troops, attacks on control centers (headquarters) and various enemy installations, and individual acts of sabotage, for the purpose of disorganizing rear areas, inflicting personnel casualties and losses of combat materiel on the enemy, and disrupting the normal operation of his communications."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:164) defines guerrilla warfare as "military and paramilitary operations conducted in enemy-held or hostile territory by irregular, predominantly indigenous forces."

GUIDED MISSILE

导 弹

Daodàn [1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2468)

A high speed flying weapon armed with a warhead which is equipped with a propulsion unit and can be guided. The direction of the guidance system causes the warhead to strike a predesignated target. Guided missiles are divided into such types as ground-to-ground, ground-to-air, air-to-air, air-to-ground, air-to-ship, ship-to-ground, ship-to-ship, and shore-to-ship, based on the launching point and the position of the target. Guided missiles can be differentiated as solid or liquid, based on the physical makeup of the propellant. They can be distinguished as ballistic and aerodynamic missiles on the basis of their flight principles. They can be divided into strategic missiles and tactical missiles based on their use in war and as short range, medium range, long range, and intercontinental missiles based on their range.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:164) defines guided missile as "an unmanned vehicle moving above the surface of the earth whose trajectory or flight path is capable of being altered by an external or internal mechanism."

GUIDED MISSILE BASE

导 弹 基 地

Daodàn Jìdì [1418 1734 1015 0966]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2470)

A base which provides for the stationing, training and operations of the guided missile force. Normally it

has command organizations, guided missile testing and launch positions, transport stations, maintenance depots, guided missile and propellant storage depots, and various types of supply installations.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

GUIDED MISSILE LAUNCHING POSITION

导 弹 发 射 阵 地

Daodàn Fāshè Zhèndì [1418 1734 4099 1410 7109 0966]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2470)

A position for carrying out guided missile launch preparations and launches. Its principal component facilities include a command post and launch equipment and technical support facilities. There are two types: fixed (surface or underground) and mobile.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

HEADQUARTERS

司 令 部

Sīlìngbù [0674 0109 6752]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:243)

An organ which supports military commanders in carrying out operational command, control, training, and other duties. In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, forces at the regimental level and above all have headquarters.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

HYDROGEN BOMB

氢 弹

Qīng Dàn [8641 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3344)

A weapon which uses the enormous amount of energy instantaneously released by the fusion reaction of the nucleus of the hydrogen atom under high temperature to cause casualties and destruction. Its principal components are the charge (usually deuterized lithium), the igniter (a specially constructed atomic bomb) and the casing. When the hydrogen bomb is detonated, it first detonates the igniter atomic bomb which produces heat of several million degrees, causing the rapid fusion of the light deuterium, tritium and other nuclei. This releases a tremendous amount of energy and forms an even more violent explosion. If the charge is further wrapped in a layer of natural uranium, when it is detonated there is an even greater amount of uranium nuclear fission which releases even more energy. This type of hydrogen bomb is called a fission-fusion-fission bomb.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms lists hydrogen bomb under thermonuclear weapon.

See also:

THERMONUCLEAR WEAPON

热 核 武 器

Rehé Wǔqì [3583 2702 2976 0892]

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING

单兵教练

Dānbīng Jiaolian [0830 0365 2403 4886]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:663)

Basic activity to familiarize every soldier with the rules and regulations. It serves as a basis for squad training.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING

各个教练

Gege Jiaolian [0677 0020 2403 4886]

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING

各个教练

Gege Jiaolian [0677 0020 2403 4886]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See:

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING

单兵教练

Dānbīng Jiaolian [0830 0365 2403 4886]

INFANTRY

步兵

Bubīng [2975 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2618)

The service which fights on foot. It is armed with such weapons as rifles, submachineguns, light and heavy machineguns, and light artillery. Its operations are affected very little by terrain, climate, or weather. It can fight independent battles. In multi-arm battles, the infantry is primarily responsible for seizing and holding positions and finally wiping out the enemy and deciding the battle. The modern infantry also includes mechanized infantry and motorized infantry. The infantry of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a glorious combat history, abundant combat experience, a high degree of political purity, a fine revolutionary tradition, a heroic, indomitable combat style, and skill in close combat and night fighting.

Ci Hai (1979:3127)

The service arm which fights on foot. Its operations are not greatly affected by terrain, climate or weather. It can accomplish its operational missions independently or in coordination with various service arms. In multi-arm battles, the infantry is primarily responsible for seizing and holding positions and finally wiping out the enemy, and deciding the battle. The modern infantry also includes motorized infantry. The infantry of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a high degree of political purity, a fine revolutionary tradition, a glorious combat history, abundant combat experience, a heroic indomitable combat style, and skill in close combat and night fighting.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE

洲际导弹

Zhōu jì Dǎodàn [3166 7139 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2137) A strategic guided missile with a range of over 8,000 kilometers.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:191) defines intercontinental ballistic missile as "a ballistic missile with a range capability from about 3,000 to 8,000 nautical miles."

JOINT FORCE

合成军队

Héchéng Jūnduì [0678 2052 6511 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:728) A military force composed of several arms and services.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:200) defines joint force as "a general term applied to a force which is composed of significant elements of the Army, the Navy or the Marine Corps, and the Air Force, or two or more of these Services, operating under a single commander authorized to exercise unified command or operational control over joint forces."

JOINT OPERATIONS

联 合 作 战

Lianhé Zuòzhàn [5114 0678 0155 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

See:

JOINT OPERATIONS

协 同 动 作

Xiétóng Dòngzuò [0588 0681 0520 0155]

JOINT OPERATIONS

协 同 动 作

Xiétóng Dòngzuò [0588 0681 0520 0155]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:289)

The intimate coordination and mutual support of various services, arms, and units under a unified battle intention and battle plan. Joint operations are based on political unity, unified tactical thinking, and a highly centralized command.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:137-38) refers to a joint operation as a combined-arms battle which it defines as "a battle fought by a combined-arms formation (or unit) together with its attached formations (or units) of other service branches and aviation; and in maritime sectors, with naval forces as well. The use of nuclear weapons and the participation of the various service branches (or forces), in conjunction with the great mobility of the troops, impart an especially decisive and maneuver-oriented character to a combined-arms battle."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

Another term, 联合作战 lianhe zuozhan "joint operations," is also used to refer to joint operations of the ground, naval, and air forces.

See also:

JOINT OPERATIONS

联合作战

Lianhe Zuozhan [5114 0678 0155 2069]

JUST WARS

正义战争

Zhengyi Zhanzheng [2973 5030 2069 3630]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2617)

All wars which conform to the basic interests of the popular masses and nationalities such as wars of liberation and antiaggression wars. Marxists actively support all just wars and stand in the forefront in fighting them.

Ci Hai (1979:3125)

All wars which conform to the basic interests of the popular masses and nationalities, such as wars of liberation and antiaggression wars. Marxists actively support all just wars.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a separate definition for this term.

It is perhaps significant that the phrase "stand in the forefront in fighting them" is deleted from the definition of just wars in the 1979 edition of Ci Hai.

LENGTH OF MILITARY SERVICE

军龄

Junling [6511 7881]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:666) The number of years that a serviceman serves in the armed forces. When servicemen are discharged from active duty in the Chinese People's Liberation Army and go to work in such units as local organs or enterprises, their length of military service is figured into their seniority.

Ci Hai (1979:851) The number of years that a serviceman serves in the armed forces.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

LOCAL ARMED FORCES

地方武装

Dìfang Wǔzhuāng [0966 2455 2976 5944]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1194) A general designation for local forces, guerrilla forces, and militia.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

LOCAL FORCES

地方军

Dìfang Jūn [0966 2455 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1190)

Also called "地方部队" *difāng buduì* [0966 2455 6752 7130] local forces." Armed Forces active in a certain region. Duties of the local forces of the Chinese People's Liberation Army include: training, leading, and fighting in coordination with the militia; supporting field army operations; maintaining local public order; and safeguarding Party and Government leadership organs. They also act as a reserve force augmenting and replenishing the field army.

See also:

LOCAL ARMED FORCES

地方武装

Difāng Wǔzhuāng [0966 2455 2976 5944]

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Since its establishment in 1983, the Chinese People's Armed Police Force has assumed primary responsibility for maintaining public order both at the national and the local level.

LOGISTICS (REAR SERVICES)

后勤

Hou Qín [0683 0530]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:614)

An abbreviation for *后方勤务* *hòufāng qínwù* [0683 2455 0530 0523] "logistics rear services." It is the service which guarantees the supply, health, technological, and transportation needs of the armed forces. Its most important duties include supplying weapons, ammunition, vehicles, naval craft, petroleum, provisions, bedding and clothing, equipment, medicine, goods, tools, and funds; carrying out immunization and general health care, and giving first aid treatment to the sick and wounded and evacuating them; inspecting and repairing weapons, vehicles, naval craft, and

other such equipment; maintaining and repairing roads in the rear area and organizing transportation; laying field petroleum lines; building and administering barracks; and [undertaking] rear area engineering projects as well as military industrial and military agricultural production.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:223) defines rear services (logistics) as "the forces and facilities forming an organizational part of the armed forces, as well as those put at the disposal of the military command by the state, for comprehensive material, technical, and medical support, and servicing of missile forces, ground forces, national air defense forces, the air force, and the navy. The rear services of the armed forces are divided into central and operational rear services and troop rear units."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:214) defines logistics as "1. the science of planning and carrying out the movement and maintenance of forces. 2. In its most comprehensive sense, those aspects of military operations which deal with: (a) design and development, acquisition, storage, movement, distribution, maintenance, evacuation, and disposition of materiel; (b) movement, evacuation, and hospitalization of personnel; (c) acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation, and disposition of facilities; and (d) acquisition or furnishing of services."

Although the literal translation of the Chinese term *hòufāng qínwù* is "rear services," official English-language sources from the People's Republic of China consistently translate it as "logistics." The Chinese and Soviet concepts of logistics (rear services) tend to include a broader range of non-combat military and military related activities than the US concept.

MANUAL

教 范

Jiaofan [2403 5400]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3362) Basic teaching material of a technical nature, such as firing manuals and maintenance and repair manuals.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

DRILL MANUAL

操典

Cǎodian [2347 0368]

MECHANIZED FORCE

机械化部队

Jíxiehuà Buduì [2623 2750 0553 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY BEARING AND DISCIPLINE

军风纪

Jūnfēngjì [6511 7364 4764]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:851)

An abbreviated form for 军容风纪 jūnróng fēngjì [6511 1369 7364 4764] "military bearing and discipline." The bearing of the armed forces and servicemen. It includes dress, etiquette, forms of address, and poise. Strict military bearing and discipline is a glorious tradition of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and a manifestation of its quality as a revolutionary armed force.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY CADRE

军队工作干部

Jūnduì Gōngzuò Gānbù [6511 7130 1562 0155 1626 6752]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Literally, this term means a cadre who does military work. Cadre is a general term used for a government functionary at any level. In Chinese sources, a distinction is often made between cadre and fighters, with the general meaning of officers and soldiers.

MILITARY CAMPAIGN

战役

Zhanyi [2069 1763]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3093)

The aggregate of a few or many battles carried out in accordance with a unified plan in a specific direction within a definite time period to enable a military force to achieve a specific strategic objective. Its scope is determined by the military strength of the combatant forces on both sides.

Commentary

What the Chinese call military campaign the Soviets call operational art. The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:143) defines it as "a component part of military art* dealing with the theory and practice of preparing for and conducting combined and independent operations by major field forces or major formations of the services. Operational art is the connecting link between strategy and tactics. Stemming from strategic requirements, operational art determines methods of preparing for and conducting operations to achieve strategic goals, and it gives the initial data for tactics, which organizes preparation for and waging of combat in accordance with the goals and missions of operations. Besides the general theory of operational art, which investigates the general principles of conducting operations, each service has its own operational art."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes no definitions for either military campaign or operational art.

In the Chinese and Soviet systems, theater warfare is treated as a separate level between the total war and the battle. The US system does not have this division.

MILITARY COMMISSION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

中共中央军事委员会

Zhōng Gōng Zhōngyāng Jūnshì Wěiyuánhuì
[0022 0364 0022 1135 6511 0057 1201 0765 2585]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The State and Party Central Military Commissions are made up of the same members. There is no clear delineation of authority between these two bodies.

*Military art in the Soviet system is generally equivalent to what the Chinese call military study (see military science).

MILITARY COURT

军事法院

Jūnshì Fǎyuàn [6511 0057 3127 7108]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853) A special court established in the armed forces by the State.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY DISCIPLINE

军纪

Jūn Jì [6511 4764]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:850) A standard with which the armed forces must comply to guarantee political, organizational, and operational consistency. The military discipline of the Chinese People's Liberation Army is based on political consciousness and is the guarantee that the revolutionary line will be carried out. It is a basic factor in combat effectiveness.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY DISTRICT

省军区

Shèng Jūnqū [4164 6511 0575]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2555) Military districts divided by province. They have leading bodies and are responsible for leading their subordinate forces and militia in military operations, training, political work, logistics, guarding, garrisoning, and mobilization for military service.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY DOCTRINE

军事思想

Jūnshí Sīxiǎng [6511 0057 1835 1927]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:37) defines military doctrine as "a nation's officially accepted system of scientifically founded views on the nature of modern wars and the use of armed forces in them, and also on the requirements arising from these views regarding the country and its armed forces being made ready for war."

"Military doctrine has two aspects: political and military-technical. The basic tenets of a military doctrine are determined by a nation's political and military leadership according to the sociopolitical order, the country's level of economic, scientific, and technological development, and the armed forces combat materiel, with due regard to the conclusions of military science and the views of the probable enemy."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:119) defines doctrine as "fundamental principles by which the military forces or elements thereof guide their actions in support of the national objectives. It is authoritative but requires judgment in application."

The term 教条 jiaotiao (2403 2742), "doctrine," is foreign to People's Republic of China vocabulary and is usually used in a pejorative sense to refer to those who are considered to be divorced from reality and locked into a rigid set of preconceived notions. The Chinese prefer to refer to their own political and military ideology as sixiang "thought." Even at the height of the Cultural Revolution, when China was completely absorbed in what foreign observers called "Maoism," the Chinese continued to hail Marxism-Leninism - Mao Zedong Thought.

The Chinese distinction between military thought and "military doctrine" is clearly delineated by Xu Xiangqian in his article "Strive to Achieve Modernization in National Defense," published in the October 1979 issue of Hongqi, where he says, "Mao Zedong's military thought and his works on the people's army and people's warfare have inherited and developed Marxist-Leninist theories and are the theoretical basis of our military thought and the guide to our military practice. Mao Zedong's military thought has vigorous vitality, because it stemmed from the practice of war and evolved through practical development and is not a rigid doctrine divorced from reality."

See also:

MILITARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

军事方针

Jūnshì Fāngzhēn [6511 0057 2455 6859]

MILITARY ENGINEER CORPS

工程兵

Gōngchéng Bīng [1562 4453 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1154)

Some countries also call them 'sappers.' It is the arm of the ground forces responsible for combat support. It is the technical backbone force which provides engineering support and is made up of sapper, ponton bridge, construction, and other such units (and subunits). In a joint operation, it cooperates closely with other services and arms to guarantee the safe concealment, stable command, and mobility of the [friendly] troops and destroy and limit enemy

mobility, while fighting in coordination with the other services and arms. The Chinese People's Liberation Army Engineer Corps was originally called sappers. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the name was changed to Engineer Corps.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:91) defines engineer troops as "special troops that provide engineering support for combat operations of all the services and service branches. Engineer troops perform the most complex tasks, requiring special training and the use of various engineering equipment. According to their role, engineer troops are subdivided into the general (combat engineer) and special categories (which includes pontoon and bridge, assault crossing, highway, works service, camouflage, construction, and other units and subunits). According to their affiliation, engineer troops are subdivided into the organic category, in which case they are a component part of ground force formations and units, or into one of the following categories: Army, front, Supreme High Command Reserve, Navy, Air, or one of the other services of the Armed Forces."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

Before the founding of the People's Republic of China, the People's Liberation Army had unskilled laborers called sappers to dig fortifications. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China, an Engineer Corps with the capability of carrying out skilled engineering projects was formed.

MILITARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES (GENERAL POLICY)

军事方针

Jūnshì Fāngzhēn [6511 0057 2455 6859]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Military guiding principles are evolved from military thought. Although, as was pointed out under military doctrine, the idea of "doctrine" is foreign

to the People's Republic of China, the Chinese concept of military guiding principles (general policy) bears much similarity to the US concept of military doctrine. The general direction of Chinese military policy can be determined from Xu Xiangqian's article, "Strive to Achieve Modernization in National Defense," published in the October 1979 issue of Hongqi. Xu emphasizes that the People's Liberation Army must be firmly subordinated to the leadership of the Party and the needs of the country. He points out that while modernization of national defense is a component part of the four modernizations and of "strategic significance," the correct policy must be to base military modernization on the national economy. Serious efforts to modernize the armed forces must await the development of agriculture, industry, and science and technology. In the meantime, the People's Republic of China will continue to produce and develop conventional weapons as well as nuclear and other sophisticated weapons and train its personnel in joint operations and the use of modern weapons. For the foreseeable future, the People's Republic of China will adopt a "strategic policy of active defense," combining Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought with the practice of modern warfare to build a people's army and "launch a people's war under modern conditions."

When used in conjunction with 政策 zhèngcè "policy," 方針 fāngzhēn is usually translated as "general policy" and 政策 zhèngcè is usually translated as "specific policy."

See also:

MILITARY POLICY

军事政策

Jūnshì Zhèngcè [6511 0057 2398 4595]

MILITARY DOCTRINE

军事思想

Jūnshì Sixiāng [6511 0057 1835 1927]

MILITARY LINE

军事路线

Jūnshì Luxiān [6511 0057 6424 4848]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the People's Republic of China does not offer a specific definition for military line, the concept of "line" is extremely important in Chinese Communist thinking. The line (Ci Hai 1979:4508) is recognized as the basic standard which men adopt in understanding the world and changing it. Once it is established, it is to be constantly verified and developed based on practice. The military line is one aspect of this Chinese Communist line.

MILITARY ORGANIZATION

军队组织

Jūndui Zūzhī [6511 7130 4809 4930]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY PERSONNEL TRANSFERRED TO CIVILIAN WORK

转业军人

Zhuānyè Jūnrén [6567 2814 6511 0086]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3070)

In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, military personnel transferred to civilian work specifically refers to military cadres who have been discharged from active duty and assigned to work in units of state organs, enterprises, and institutions. It also refers to soldiers who were collectively transferred to civilian work during the period when the voluntary enlistment system was in effect.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

VETERAN

退伍军人
Tuiwù Jūnrén [6622 0124 6511 0086]

MILITARY POLICY (SPECIFIC)

军事政策

Jūnshì Zhèngcè [6511 0057 2398 4595]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

When used in conjunction with 方針 fāngzhēn "guiding principles," 政策 zhèngcè is usually translated as "specific policy" and 方針 fāngzhēn is usually translated as "general policy."

See also:

MILITARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

军事方针
Jūnshì Fāngzhēn [6511 0057 2455 6859]

MILITARY PROCURATORATE

军事检察院

Jūnshì Jiāncháyuàn [6511 0057 2914 1390 7108]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853)

A special procuratorate established in the armed forces by the State.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY REGION/DISTRICT

军区

Jūnqū [6511 0575]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:850)

A military area delineated according to strategic needs. It has a leadership organization responsible for the unified leadership of the fighting, training, political work, and logistics of the military units in the area as well as garrison, conscription, and militia work. In the latter part of the Third Revolutionary Civil War, the Chinese People's Liberation Army divided the whole country into the six military regions of northwest, southwest, east, south central, northeast, and north.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for military region or military district.

In 1954, the People's Republic of China was divided into 11 military regions. Military regions are designated by qū preceded by the name of the headquarters city. The military regions are subdivided into military districts which are designated by qū preceded by the name of the province or autonomous region. Based on a decision of the 23 May-6 June 1985 enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission, the military regions are being reorganized and reduced to 7.

MILITARY SCIENCE

军事科学

Jūnshí Kéxué [6511 0057 4430 1331]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:667) The science which studies warfare and the laws for directing warfare.

Ci Hai (1979:853) The science which studies warfare and the laws for directing warfare. It is broadly divided into theoretical and technical branches. Theoretical study includes military thought and military study. Military thought is principally concerned with the study of basic military theory, such as the relationship between the military and politics, the military and the economy, and the line to be followed in building the army. Military study is principally concerned with strategy, campaigns, tactics, military systems, military mobilization, military history, military geography, and military education and training. Technical study is principally concerned with the structure, principles, function, and use of various types of weapons and equipment.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:38) defines military science as "a system of knowledge concerning the nature, essence, and content of armed conflict, and concerning the manpower, facilities, and methods for conducting combat operations by means of armed forces and their comprehensive support."

"Military science investigates the objective laws governing armed conflict, and elaborates questions pertaining to the theory of military art, which is the basic component of military science, as well as questions pertaining to the organization, training, and supply of armed forces, and also deals with military historical experience."

"Soviet military science is based on Marxist-Leninist teachings and is guided by the method of materialistic dialectics and historical materialism, taking into account and using the achievements of those other sciences which tend to promote continual development and progress in the military sphere."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

MILITARY STRATEGY

战 略

Zhanlüe [2069 3970]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3093)

Comprehensive planning and direction of a war. It is based on military, political, economic, and geographic factors of the opposing sides and is concerned with various aspects of the entire war situation and the relationship of the various stages [of the war]. It determines the preparation and utilization of military strength, in such ways as the building up of the armed forces; carrying out national defense construction; producing and stockpiling military equipment and supplies; carrying out military mobilization; determining the basic orientation of the war; and delimiting the war zone. [It is also concerned with] the establishment of operational policy and guiding principles.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:38) defines military strategy as "the highest level in the field of military art* constituting a system of scientific knowledge concerning the phenomena and laws of armed conflict."

"On the basis of the tenets of military doctrine, the experience of past wars, and analysis of the political, economic, and military conditions of the current situation, military strategy investigates and elaborates on problems pertaining to the training of the armed forces as a whole and the individual services, and their strategic use in war; the forms and methods of conducting and directing war; and also problems pertaining to comprehensive strategic support of the combat operations of the armed forces."

"At the same time, military strategy is a field of practical activity for the higher military command in training the armed forces for war and providing leadership in armed conflict. Military strategy exerts an influence on the preparation of a country for war in such a way as to ensure victory."

*Military art in the Soviet system is generally equivalent to what the Chinese call military study (see military science).

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:232) defines military strategy as "the art and science of employing the armed forces of a nation to secure the objectives of national policy by the application of force, or the threat of force."

In both the Chinese and the Soviet definitions, strategy denotes comprehensive planning and direction of the total war and includes all military and related preparations. The US Department of Defense definition is much more limited.

MILITARY STRENGTH

兵力

Bīnglì [0365 0500]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:657) The actual strength of a military force. It includes personnel, weapons and equipment. It is usually expressed in number of units or number of personnel, such as one regiment, 1,000 personnel.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY SUBDISTRICT

军分区

Jūnfēnqū [6511 0433 0575]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:851) A military subdivision within a provincial or equivalent area. A military subdistrict generally covers the same area as an administrative district (or autonomous prefecture). It has a leadership organization responsible for the fighting, training, political work, logistics, guard duty, and conscription and mobilization of the troops and militia subordinate to it.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY SYSTEMS

军 制

Jūnzhì [6511 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:851)

The various types of systems in the military such as armed forces organization, authorized strength, military service, equipment, training, administrative education, discipline, and mobilization.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

MILITARY TACTICS

战 术

Zhanshu [2069 2611]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3092)

The tactics to be used are determined by the actual situation of the combatants as well as such conditions as topography and climate.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:218) defines military tactics as "a special field in the theory and practice of military art* which studies the objective laws of combat and develops methods of preparing for combat and conducting it, on land, at sea, and in the air. Military tactics occupies a subordinate position with respect to operational art and strategy, acting in their interests, and serving to achieve the goals set for it by the operational art. Each service and branch by virtue of its intrinsic peculiarities, has its own theory and practice for the organization and conduct of combat and, consequently, its own tactics too, which are called service tactics or branch (arms) tactics."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:363) defines tactics as "(1) the employment of units in combat; (2) the ordered arrangement and maneuver of units in relation to each other and/or to the enemy in order to utilize their full potentialities."

MILITARY TECHNOLOGY

军事技术

Jūnshì Jishù [6511 0057 2111 2611]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853)

The military use of all types of scientific technology such as small arms and artillery, combat vehicles, aircraft, naval craft, electronic equipment, nuclear weapons, guided missiles, rockets, satellites, and various other types of technical equipment. It can also refer to mastering the techniques of operating and using weapons and military equipment, such as shooting, bayonetting, throwing grenades, [performing] engineering skills, and driving.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

*Military art in the Soviet system is generally equivalent to what the Chinese call military study (see military science).

MILITARY TRAINING

军事训练

Junshi Xunlian [6511 0057 6064 4886]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853) Training carried out to raise the technical and tactical level of the troops.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:233) defines military training as "the instruction of personnel to enhance their capacity to perform specific military functions and tasks; the exercise of one or more military units conducted to enhance their combat readiness."

In a related definition (p. 231) it defines military education as "the systematic instruction of individuals in subjects that will enhance their knowledge of the science and art of war."

MILITIA

民兵

Minbing [3046 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4131) A mass armed organization which is not removed from production. The Militia of the People's Republic of China is a component part of the Chinese People's Armed Forces led by the Chinese Communist Party, a powerful aid to the Chinese People's Liberation Army and a strong reserve force. It has been developed and strengthened during a long period of revolutionary war under the guidance of Mao Zedong's Thought on people's warfare. During the First Revolutionary Civil War, there were Worker Pickets and the Peasant Self-Defense Corps. During the Second Revolutionary Civil War,

there were Red Guards and Youth Vanguards. During the Anti-Japanese War of Resistance and the Third Revolutionary Civil War, it became the Militia and the Self-Defense Force. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the militia system spread throughout the country. The Militia is divided into the Basic (Backbone) Militia and the Ordinary Militia. The Chinese Militia [members] made a great contribution during the period of the new democratic revolution by enthusiastically competing to join the army, cooperating with the troops in waging war, persisting in guerrilla warfare, supporting the front line, and consolidating the rear areas. Since the establishment of the country, they have actively participated in the socialist revolution and socialist construction; cooperated with the People's Liberation Army and the Ministry of Public Security; guarded sea and land borders; and maintained social order.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

According to Article 36 of the 1984 Military Service Law of the People's Republic of China, "the militia is an armed mass organization which is not divorced from production and is the Chinese People's Liberation Army's assistant and reserve force.

The tasks of the militia are as follows:

1. The militia actively takes part in building socialist modernization and takes the lead in accomplishing production and other tasks.
2. The militia undertakes tasks in preparation against war, defends the frontiers and maintains social security.
3. The militia is ready at all times to join the Army and take part in military operations to resist aggression and defend the motherland.

Article 37: Various townships, nationality townships, towns and enterprises are to set up militia organizations. Male citizens from age 18 to 35 who meet the requirements for performing military service, with the exception of those who are drafted for active military service, are to be organized into militia organizations as reserves. The age for militia cadres may be extended in an appropriate manner.

In units which do not set up militia organizations, male citizens who meet the conditions for performing military service are to register for reserve service.

Article 38: Militiamen are divided into primary militiamen and general militiamen. Soldiers retired from active service and those who have received military training or those who have been selected to receive military training under age 28 are organized into primary militia units, while other male citizens from 18 to 35 who meet the conditions for performing military service are organized into general militia units.

According to need, female citizens may be absorbed into primary militia units.

The age for primary militiamen in frontier and coastal areas, minority nationality regions and units in cities with special situations may be extended in an appropriate manner."

MINE WARFARE, LAND

地雷战

Dilei Zhan [0966 7191 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for mine warfare.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:234) defines mine warfare as "the strategic and tactical use of mines and their countermeasures."

The People's Republic of China distinguishes between land mine warfare and sea mine warfare, but does not offer a formal definition for either.

MINE WARFARE, SEA

水雷战

Shuilei Zhan [3055 7191 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for mine warfare.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:234) defines mine warfare as "the strategic and tactical use of mines and their countermeasures."

The People's Republic of China distinguishes between land mine warfare and sea mine warfare, but does not offer a formal definition for either.

MOBILE DEFENSE

机 动 防 御

Jídòng Fángyù [2623 0520 7089 1785]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:238) defines mobile defense as "defense of an area or position in which maneuver is used with organization of fire and utilization of terrain to seize the initiative from the enemy."

MOBILE WARFARE

运 动 战

Yundongzhan [6663 0520 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2388)

A type of quick decisive offensive warfare conducted on the outside lines of the campaign and the battle by regular forces who are in an extended battleline and a large theater of operations. It can also include supplementary positional offenses and positional defenses as well as the so-called 'mobile defense' which is conducted when necessary to facilitate carrying out this type of offensive warfare. It is characterized by [the use of] regular forces, campaign and battle superiority, and is offensive and mobile in nature.

Commentary

Since this type of "mobile warfare," as distinct from maneuver warfare is uniquely Chinese, neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

For a more conventional concept of mobile warfare see mobility.

The tactics of mobile warfare were discussed by Mao Zedong in his work, Problems of Strategy in China's Revolutionary War, written in December 1936. It is an essential element in Mao Zedong's active defense.

MOBILITY

机 动

Jidong [2623 0520]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2861)

Actions adopted by fighting forces to adapt to conditions and gain the initiative by quickly shifting troops and changing tactics. Based on its scope, it is divided into strategic mobility, campaign mobility, and tactical mobility. Flexible use of mobility can achieve a surprise victory.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for mobility, but (1965:117) defines maneuver warfare as "a war in which armed conflict is conducted with extensive maneuvering by forces and weapons

in space, in the air, on land, and at sea, and in which stable fronts are lacking for protracted periods."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:238) defines mobility as "a quality or capability of military forces that permits them to move from place to place while retaining the ability to fulfill their primary mission."

MOTORIZED INFANTRY

摩托化步兵

Mótuōhuà BùBīng [2302 2094 0553 2975 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4723) Infantry equipped with tracked (or wheeled) vehicles. [The troops] are transported by motor vehicles and either get out of the vehicles to fight or fight from the vehicles. Some countries also call them 'armored infantry' or 'mechanized infantry.'

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:128) defines motorized troops as "having at their disposal motor transport that is used to carry personnel, combat materiel, armament, and the various supplies needed for daily use and for combat."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:240) defines motorized unit as "a unit equipped with complete motor transportation that enables all of its personnel, weapons, and equipment to be moved at the same time without assistance from other sources."

MULTISTAGE CARRIER ROCKET

多级运载火箭

Duōjí Yúnzài Huǒjiàn [1122 4787 6663 6528 3499 4628]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1907-8) It can be abbreviated to "多级火箭 duōjí huǒjiàn 'multistage rocket.'" It is a carrier rocket

made up of two or more rockets connected in a series. Each rocket stage is equipped with a propulsion system (single or multiple stage) and propellant. In the launching and flight, when the propellant of the first stage rocket is used up, that stage separates from the main body and the propulsion system of the second stage rocket immediately begins to function. After that the second stage drops off and the third and fourth stages each operate in succession causing the flying apparatus to proceed at a continuously increased rate of speed. When the propellant of the final stage rocket is used up, it can either separate or not separate and remain a part of the flying apparatus. The flying apparatus relies on inertia to continue its movement. Using the multistage rocket method gradually reduces the inefficient body weight in flight, so that the ultimate speed of the flying apparatus can be increased. However, it is not advisable for the number of stages to be excessive. With numerous stages the number of mating and separation mechanisms are correspondingly increased which can easily cause such problems as a reduction in the rigidity of the rocket body. A two or three stage rocket is normally used to launch ordinary artificial earth satellites. A four stage rocket is normally used to launch artificial earth satellites with a comparatively high orbit (e.g. geosynchronous satellites), moon probes, and planetary probes. When this occurs the last stage rocket becomes an artificial celestial body.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NATIONAL DEFENSE

國 防

Guofang [0948 7089]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1755)

Military and military-related political, economic, and cultural efforts and combat for the purpose of protecting national sovereignty and territorial integrity

and security and guarding against external aggression and subversion.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRY OFFICE

国 防 工 办

Guofang Gongban [0948 7089 1562 6586]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The National Defense Industry Office, a staff office of the State Council, directs and supervises the defense-related activities of the ministries of machine building; plans research and production and allocates funds and resources for the use of defense industries. It works closely with the National Defense Science and Technology Commission and acts as a liaison between the civilian and military sectors of the national defense industry system.

NATIONAL DEFENSE MODERNIZATION

国 防 现 代 化

Guofang Xian daihua [0948 7089 3807 0108 0553]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for military modernization or national defense modernization.

Although the People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for national defense modernization, it is included with agriculture, industry, and science and technology as one of the four modernizations. The government of the People's Republic of China has set itself the goal of bringing all of these up to the level of the technological advanced nations by the end of this century.

NATIONAL DEFENSE PHYSICAL TRAINING MOVEMENT

国防体育运动

Guofáng Tǐyù Yùndòng [0948 7089 7555 5148 6663 0520]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1765)

It is the component of the Physical Training Movement which deals with military physical training. Our country has developed the ground movement--marksmanship, motor vehicles, radios; the nautical movement--motor boats, numerous aspects of seamanship, diving, nautical models; and the aeronautical movement--gliding, flying, parachuting, [and] aeronautical models. The National Defense Physical Training Movement is aimed mainly at the youth to use their spare-time to carry out combat readiness education, disseminate national defense scientific knowledge, and raise the technical level of the movement in order to serve national defense construction and contribute to the realization of the four modernizations.

Commentary

The National Defense Physical Training Movement is uniquely Chinese and, therefore, it is not included in either the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms or the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

NATIONAL DEFENSE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

国 防 科 技 委 员 会

Guofáng Kējì Wéiyuánhuì [0948 7089 4430 2111 1201 0765 2585]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The National Defense Science and Technology Commission is the People's Liberation Army organization responsible for all defense-related research projects, including missile and nuclear weapons development and has the authority to approve, coordinate, and fund all such projects. It also administers and directs a network of defense-related research and development organizations and works closely with the National Defense Industry Office of the State Council and the ministries under it to provide technical guidance and scientific expertise.

NAUTICAL MOVEMENT

航 海 运 动

Hánghǎi Yundòng [5300 3189 6663 0520]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:3673)

It is one part of National Defense Physical Training. Its most important elements include nautical models, numerous aspects of seamanship, motor boats, and diving. The Nautical Movement disseminates and popularizes nautical and shipbuilding knowledge among the broad masses, especially the youth, and trains reserve technical personnel in coastal defense, shipping, and shipbuilding.

Commentary

Since Nautical Movement, as part of the National Defense Physical Training Movement, is uniquely Chinese, it is not included in either the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms or the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

Nautical Movement is listed as one element of the National Defense Physical Training Movement (see) as defined in the 1979 edition of the Ci Hai, but this edition does not contain a separate definition for Nautical Movement.

NAVAL AVIATION

海军航空兵

Hǎijūn Hángkōngbīng [3189 6511 5300 4500 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2169) It is the principal naval arm for combat activity in the air over the ocean and normally consists of ship-based naval aviation and shore-based naval aviation. Its principal duties are the destruction of enemy ships on the sea; covering the combat activities of [our] ships; carrying out reconnaissance, patrols, and antisubmarine [warfare]; and protecting naval bases.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NAVAL DISTRICT

海军区

Hǎijūnqū [3189 6511 0575]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:246) defines naval district as "a geographically defined area in which one naval officer, designated commandant, is the direct representative of the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations. The commandant has the responsibility for local naval defense and security and for the coordination of naval activities in the area."

The naval district is the administrative level immediately below the naval fleet in the Navy of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

NAVAL FLEET

舰队

Jiandui [5324 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4360)

(1) A naval force charged with the duty of fighting in a certain strategic sea area. Normally it is made up of ships, naval aviation, naval infantry, and naval coastal defense forces. (2) Some countries' navies also commonly refer to formations of several ships for warfare, training, or certain [other] missions as 'fleets.'

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:229) defines fleet as "a naval strategic formation intended to conduct hostilities in a given maritime (or ocean) theater. A fleet consists of formations and strategic formations of various branches of the navy (flotillas, squadrons, divisions, brigades, and individual units). A fleet includes naval bases, one of which is a main naval base. The operational activity of a fleet is supported by the rear elements and special services which form part of it."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:149) defines fleet as "an organization of ships, aircraft, marine forces, and shore-based fleet activities, all under the command of a commander or commander in chief who may exercise operational as well as administrative control."

The Navy of the People's Liberation Army is divided into the North Sea Fleet, headquartered at Qingdao; the East Sea Fleet, headquartered at Shanghai; and the South Sea Fleet, headquartered at Zhanjiang.

NAVAL INFANTRY (MARINES)

海 军 陆 战 队

Hǎijūn Lùzhànduì [3189 6511 7120 2069 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2169)

The arm of the navy responsible for amphibious warfare. Except for being equipped with landing tools and weapons and equipment suitable for landings, its organization and equipment are generally the same as the infantry. It is mainly used in amphibious warfare as a vanguard to seize and consolidate the beachhead. It can also take responsibility for base and coastal defense.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NAVAL STRATEGY

海 军 战 略

Hǎijūn Zhànlüè [3189 6511 2069 3970]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Naval strategy is a specific application of the military strategy of the People's Republic of China.

NAVAL TACTICS

海军战术

Háijūn Zhànsù [3189 6511 2069 2611]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NAVAL TASK FORCE

海军特遣部队

Háijūn Tèqiǎn Bùduì [3189 6511 3676 6680 6752 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:367) defines task force as "(1) a temporary grouping of units under one commander, formed for the purpose of carrying out a specific operation or mission. (2) A semipermanent organization of units under one commander for the purpose of carrying out a continuing specific task. (3) A component of a fleet organized by the commander of a task fleet or higher authority for the accomplishment of a specific task or tasks."

NAVAL TASK GROUP

海 军 特 遣 支 队

Háijūn Tèqian Zhīduì [3189 6511 3676 6680 2388 7130]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:367) defines task group as "a component of a naval task force organized by the commander of a task force or higher authority."

NAVY

海 军

Háijūn [3189 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2154)

The armed force which fights on the sea. It is usually made up of such arms as surface ships, submarines, naval aviation, naval coastal defense forces, naval infantry, and various specialized forces. It has the capability to fight on the sea, under the sea, and in the air. It can fight independently at sea as well as jointly with the ground forces and air force. The Navy of the Chinese People's Liberation Army was established in 1949, on the foundation of the ground forces, and has grown in strength through combat.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NUCLEAR DETERRENT

核 威 慾 力 量

He Weishe Liliang [2702 1218 2042 0500 6852]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the Chinese have no formal definition for nuclear deterrent, it is considered a major element in the deterrent force (see).

NUCLEAR DOCTRINE

核 子 战 略

Hezi Zhanlue [2702 1311 2069 3970]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The People's Republic of China does not use the term "doctrine" in reference to its own military planning. Probably the term nuclear strategy would be closest to nuclear doctrine. Nuclear strategy is the nuclear aspect of the general military strategy.

NUCLEAR RETALIATION

核 报 复

He Baofu [2702 1032 1788]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NUCLEAR WARHEAD

核 弹 头

He Dantou [2702 1734 7333]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2980) A guided missile warhead armed with nuclear material (atomic warhead and hydrogen warhead).

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

NUCLEAR WEAPON

核 武 器

He Wuqi [2702 2976 0892]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2980)

Also called 原子武器 yuánzǐ wǔqì [0626 1311 2976 0892] atomic weapon." A weapon which uses the energy given off by the reaction of an atomic nucleus to create casualties and destruction. There are atomic bombs and hydrogen bombs. They can be fired by such means as guided missiles, rockets or artillery or dropped from aircraft. Based on its intended use and the nature of the target being struck, such methods as aerial detonation, surface (earth or water) detonation and underground or underwater detonation can be used. After the detonation it produces four casualty and destruction producing factors: a shock wave, ray radiation, the early stage of nuclear radiation (penetrating radiation), and radioactive contamination. When the nuclear weapon is detonated on the earth's surface or in the air, a dazzling flash of light and a blazing ball of fire appear first, accompanied by a tremendous sound. The ball of fire quickly ascends and expands. At the same time the column of dust sucked up from the ground forms a mushroom cloud.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:236) defines nuclear weapons as "the general term for weapons whose action is based on the utilization of intranuclear energy liberated as a result of nuclear reactions, namely, fission, fusion, or both simultaneously. Nuclear weapons include missiles and aerial bombs having nuclear charge, etc."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:255) defines nuclear weapon as "a device in which the explosion results from the energy released by reactions involving atomic nuclei, either fission or fusion, or both."

OFFICER (COMMANDER)

指 挥 员

Zhīhuīyuán [2172 2264 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:1292)

Leaders of various ranks in the military or a commanding officer who is a second lieutenant [ensign] or above.

Ci Hai (1979:1587)

(1) A leading cadre in the armed forces responsible for directing military operations. (2) A general term for military cadre.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The difference between the definition found in the 1965 edition of the Ci Hai and that found in the 1979 edition reflects the fact that the People's Liberation Army discontinued the use of ranks in 1965.

ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEM

建制

Jianzhi [1696 0455]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1143)

1. Units in the armed forces organized according to authorized strength, such as division organization and regimental organization.
2. The subordinate relationship stipulated by armed forces organization and authorized strength. For example, the authorized strength determines that the 1st, 2d, and 3d Regiments are subordinate to the 1st Division, so the 1st, 2d, and 3d Regiments come under the organizational system of the 1st Division.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

PARAMILITARY FORCES

輔助兵种

Fuzhu Bingzhong [6534 0504 0365 4429]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for paramilitary forces.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:272) defines paramilitary forces as "forces or groups that are distinct from the regular armed forces of any country, but resembling them in organization, equipment, training, or mission."

The principal paramilitary forces in the People's Republic of China are the Militia and the Production and Construction Corps. The Production and Construction Corps is a paramilitary organization which is assigned the primary mission of economic development of remote and unproductive areas and the secondary mission of border defense and surveillance.

PARITY

均 力

Jūnshì [0971 0528]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1209) Balance of power. Now it usually indicates a situation in which two or more sides are of equal strength.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:254) defines this term under nuclear parity as "a condition at a given point in time when opposing forces possess nuclear offensive and defensive systems approximately equal in overall combat effectiveness."

When this term is used in a military sense, it usually refers to nuclear parity (a balance of nuclear forces) or missile parity (a balance of missile forces).

PASSIVE DEFENSE

消 极 防 御

Xiaojí Fangyù [3194 2817 7089 1785]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2148)

It is also called 专 守 防 御 zhuānshǒu fāngyù (1413 1343 7089 1785) 'pure defense' or 单 纯 防 御 dānchún fāngyù (0830 4783 7089 1789) 'pure defense.' It is a defense which simply resists an enemy attack, is passive and vulnerable to attack, and is not for the purpose of counterattacking or attacking.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:273) defines passive defense as "measures taken to reduce the probability of and to minimize the effects of damage caused by hostile action without the intention of taking the initiative."

Passive defense has been disparaged in Mao Zedong's pioneer military work, Problems of Strategy in China's Revolutionary War, and subsequent Chinese military writings. From the Chinese viewpoint, the only true defense is an active defense.

See also:

ACTIVE DEFENSE

积 极 防 御

Jíjí Fangyù [4480 2817 7089 1785]

PEOPLE'S AIR DEFENSE

人 民 防 空

Rénmín Fangkōng [0086 3046 7089 4500]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Since people's air defense is uniquely Chinese, neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The People's Republic of China treats people's air defense under the general category of air defense (see).

PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES

人民武装

Rénmín Wǔzhuāng [0086 3046 2976 5944]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:698)

An armed force which belongs to the people and safeguards the people's interests. The people's armed forces of the People's Republic of China include such armed organizations as the People's Liberation Army and the militia. The term sometimes specifically indicates such mass armed organizations as the militia.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES DEPARTMENT

人民武装部

Rénmín Wǔzhuāngbù [0086 3046 2976 5944 6752]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:702)

The leadership department for people's armed forces work. It is responsible for such duties as the organization, training, command, military service, and frontal support of militia located in the area.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE

人民武装警察

Rénmín Wǔzhuāng Jǐngchá [0086 3046 2976 5944 6226 1390]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The People's Armed Police was reestablished in 1982 and 1983. It is assigned the duties of guarding leading party and government departments and key installations and maintaining public order, and has probably assumed the customs duties of the People's Armed Border Police. It is directly subordinate to the Ministry of Public Security and is made up largely of transferred CPLA units. Like the CPLA, it maintains the system of integrating compulsory and voluntary military service, follows CPLA rules and regulations, and uses the CPLA supply standards.

See also:

PUBLIC SECURITY FORCE

公安部队

Gōng'ān Budui [0361 1344 6752 7130]

PEOPLE'S DEFENSE

人民防衛

Renmin Fangyu [0086 3046 7089 1785]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Since people's defense is a uniquely Chinese concept, it is not found in either the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms or the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

Although the People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for people's defense, it is an essential element in people's war (see).

PEOPLE'S WAR

人民戰爭

Renmin Zhanzheng [0086 3046 2069 3630]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:699)

The organization of the broad masses of the people to fight class oppression and oppression of nationalities. The revolutionary war led by the Chinese Communist Party has a people's army as its backbone and firmly relies on and organizes the popular masses to participate in a people's war. People's war is carried out by a combination of the main force units and regional forces, the regular army, guerrilla forces, and militia in conjunction with the armed and unarmed masses.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

People's war is a basic tenet of Mao's military thought which has been adapted by today's People's Liberation Army as "people's war under modern conditions." This adaptation of people's war is reflected in Xu Xiangqian's article, "Strive to Achieve Modernization in National Defense," published in the October 1979 edition of Hongqi, where he says, "To master modern military thought, we must combine Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought with the practice of modern warfare and realistically solve the theoretical and practical problems of building a people's army and carrying out a people's war under modern conditions."

PLATOON

排

Pai [2226]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1600) A level in the organization of the armed forces below the company and above the squad.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

POLITICAL COMMISSAR

政治委员

zhèngzhì wéiyuán [2398 3112 1201 0765]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3357) Also abbreviated as 政委 zhèng wei [2398 1201]. The Chinese People's Liberation Army has political commissars in units at the regimental level and above as well as in some battalions. [The political commissar] acts as a leader in the unit along with the military commander of that level, and is co-responsible for the activities of the unit. Under the leadership of party committees, military leaders, and political organs at higher levels as well as Party committees of equal rank, he has the principal responsibility for

leading the Party and political work of the unit and taking care of routine matters of the Party committee. He ensures that the line and general and specific policies of the Party, national laws and decrees, and commands and directives from higher levels are carried out by the unit.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The political commissariat system plays an essential part in the politicization of the People's Liberation Army. Every unit in the People's Liberation Army has a political officer. At the regimental level and above, he is called the political commissar. At the battalion level, he is usually called the 政治教导员 zhèngzhì jiàodǎoyuán [2398 3112 2403 1418 0765] "political instructor." At the company level, he is called the 政治指导员 zhèngzhì zhídǎoyuán [2398 3112 2172 1418 0765] "political instructor."

POLITICIZATION

政治化

Zhèngzhihuà [2398 3112 0553]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for politicization, the Chinese consider it imperative that the People's Liberation Army, which was "founded and is led by the Chinese Communist Party," be completely politicized. This is accomplished through a dual system of political control and political education.

The Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party administers the Party structure within the People's Liberation Army through Chinese Communist Party committees, branches, and cells at the various levels and through the political commissariat system which is under the direction of the General Political Department.

Political education makes up an integral part of the overall training of the People's Liberation Army and consists of instruction, discussions, and work with the masses.

PROTRACTED WARFARE

持久战

Chíjiǔzhàn [2170 0036 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1582)

Warfare which is sustained for a comparatively long period of time. It is a policy which is usually adopted when the just side is in a relatively inferior position, in order to gradually weaken the enemy and strengthen oneself, change an inferior position to a superior position, and achieve ultimate victory over the enemy. It is accomplished through a general policy of smashing the other side in battles of quick decision. In the Chinese Revolutionary War, while the other side was strong and our side was weak, we adopted a general policy of protracted defensive warfare on the inner lines at the strategic level, and quick, decisive attacks on the outer lines in the campaigns and battles; and [we] ultimately defeated the enemy.

Commentary

Since protracted warfare is a uniquely Chinese strategy, neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Protracted warfare was discussed by Mao Zedong in his December 1936 work, Problems of Strategy in China's Revolutionary War, and was the main theme of his May 1938 treatise, On Protracted War. It is an essential strategy in Mao Zedong's active defense.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

心理战

Xīnlízhàn [1800 3810 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:179-80) defines psychological warfare as "a term widespread in the bourgeois press, meaning the sum total of all subversive measures of a political and ideological nature, effected by various civil and military elements of imperialist states against the people and armed forces personnel of socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union. The basis of 'psychological warfare' is falsehood, slander and misinformation, propaganda in favor of the capitalist system, and distortion of the peace-loving policy of socialist countries."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:293) defines psychological warfare as "the use of communications media and other psychological means, in a declared emergency or in war, designed to bring psychological pressure to bear on the enemy and to influence favorably the attitudes and behavior of hostile groups and other target audiences in areas under enemy control. The primary objectives are to support all efforts against the enemy aimed at weakening his will to engage in or to continue hostilities and at reducing his capacity for waging war."

Although the Chinese do not have a formal definition for psychological warfare, psychology plays a major role in the Chinese strategy of using people's war to exploit the weaknesses of a more powerful enemy.

PUBLIC SECURITY FORCE

公 安 部 队

Gōng'ān Bùduì [0361 1344 6752 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:491)

An element of the national armed forces. It is charged with such duties as guarding important industries and communications installations; maintaining public order; and guarding cities and protecting the border. The public security force of the People's Republic of China was formerly called the "People's Armed Police Force."

Ci Hai (1979:643)

An armed force which is charged with such duties as guarding important national factories, mines, enterprises, and communications facilities, maintaining public order, guarding cities, and border security duties.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE

人民武装警察
Rénmín Wǔzhuāng Jīngchá [0086 3046 2976 5944 6226 1390]

RECONNAISSANCE

侦察

Zhēnchá [0259 1390]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:545)

An activity carried out to ascertain the enemy situation, the terrain, or other circumstances related to warfare. Reconnaissance is an important element for ensuring victory in a war. It is divided into surface reconnaissance, aerial reconnaissance, and maritime reconnaissance, based on where the activity takes place. Based on the mission, it is divided into strategic reconnaissance, campaign reconnaissance, and tactical reconnaissance. The most important methods adopted for reconnaissance are combat reconnaissance, technical reconnaissance, spy reports, observations, photography, captured prisoners of war, inquiries of [local] inhabitants, and the collection of enemy documents.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:304) defines reconnaissance as "a mission undertaken to obtain, by visual observation or other detection methods, information about the activities and resources of an enemy or potential enemy; or to secure data concerning the meteorological, hydrographic, or geographic characteristics of a particular area."

See also:

COMBAT INTELLIGENCE

战、斗、情、报

Zhandou Qingbao [2069 2435 1906 1032]

RED AND EXPERT

又 红 又 专

Yòu Hóng Yòu Zhuān [0642 4767 0642 1413]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the term "red and expert" is not formally defined, it is often used by the Chinese to describe the delicate balance between political reliability and professional expertise.

REGIMENT

团

Tuān [0957]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1746) A level in the organization of the armed forces below the division (or brigade) and above the battalion.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

REGULAR ARMY

正 规 军

Zhèngguī Jūn [2973 6016 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3124)

Armed forces made up in accordance with a unified authorized strength and having a unified command, a unified system, unified discipline and unified training.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

REGULATIONS

条 令

Tiaolìng [2742 0109]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1913)

Standards for military activities, such as combat regulations, routine service regulations, disciplinary regulations, and drill regulations.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

研 制

Yánzhì [4282 0455]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

Although the People's Republic of China does not have a formal definition for this term, increased emphasis has been put on developing new and better weapons and equipment since the death of Mao Zedong in 1976, in an attempt to modernize defense capabilities.

RESERVE

后 备 兵

Houbēibīng [0683 0271 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:614)

- (1) A general term for those personnel who can be called up to perform military service in time of war.
- (2) Some countries divide their military service into active duty, ready reserve, and standby reserve. Those military personnel who have fulfilled their ready reserve obligation and have been transferred to the standby reserve are called standby reserves.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:312) refers to the reserve as "members of the military services who are not in active service but who are subject to call to active duty."

See also:

RESERVE

后 备 军

Houbēijūn [0683 0271 6511]

RESERVE

后 备 军

Houbéijūn [0683 0271 6511]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

See:

RESERVE

后 备 兵

Houbéibīng [0683 0271 0365]

RESERVE DUTY

预 备 役

Yùbeiyì [7315 0271 1763]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:3559)

A type of military duty. Military personnel who have resigned from active duty and citizens who are required by law to undergo military service and have not enlisted are all assigned to reserve duty and are prepared to be recruited into the army whenever the State requires. The reserve force is divided into officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers.

Ci Hai (1979:4229)

A type of military duty. Military personnel who have resigned from active duty and citizens who are required by law to perform military service and have not enlisted are by regulation assigned to reserve duty and are prepared to be recruited into the army whenever the State requires.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

RETALIATION (REVENGE)

报复

Baofu [1032 1788]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1554)

At present, it usually refers to a hostile counter-attack against someone who has criticized or injured one.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

RETREAT

退却

Tuque [6622 0606]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2407)

Activity which is undertaken by troops faced with an attack from a superior enemy force, when it becomes apparent that they cannot expeditiously break up the attack. It is a planned shift undertaken to preserve their military strength and await the opportunity to destroy the enemy.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

ROCKET

火 箭

Huǒjiàn (3499 4628)

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3556)

A flying device propelled by a rocket engine(s). It carries all of its fuel (including the incendiary agent and the oxidizing agent) on board and is capable of flying in outer space.

Its main components are the payload, fuel tanks, and fuselage, as well as the propulsion unit and the control system or stabilizing mechanism. It can be used to probe the upper atmosphere and launch artificial earth satellites and spacecraft. Militarily, it can serve as a rocket weapon. A guided rocket can accurately deliver a payload (such as an artificial satellite) to a predetermined area or place it in a predetermined orbit. A guided rocket armed with a warhead is called a guided missile. Sometimes rocket is also called as a short form to mean rocket engine. The rocket was invented by our country. As early as the 12th and 13th centuries gunpowder jets were already being used to propel arrows.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:316) defines rocket as a "self-propelled vehicle whose trajectory or course, while in flight, cannot be controlled."

SECOND ARTILLERY (STRATEGIC MISSILE FORCE)

第 二 炮 兵

Di'ér Pàobīng [4574 0059 3517 0365]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:191) defines strategic missile force as "the principal Service of the Armed Forces of the USSR, intended to execute the most vital strategic missions of a nuclear missile war. In the USA and Britain, strategic missiles are a component of the Air Force."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (CPLA) Strategic Missile Force has developed out of a rudimentary guided missile unit established in 1958 and very early in its history was given the name "Second Artillery" by Premier Zhou Enlai. The force presently contains a number of land-based missiles with ranges as high as 13,000 kilometers. In 1980, the Chinese launched an experimental intercontinental ballistic missile to the South Pacific. In 1981, they launched 3 satellites with a single carrier rocket; in 1982, they test-fired their first submarine-launched ballistic missile; and, in early 1984, they successfully placed a communications satellite in geosynchronous orbit. The existence of a CPLA Strategic Missile Force was officially revealed by a senior CPLA official in June 1984.

SECOND STRIKE (NUCLEAR COUNTERATTACK)

核子反攻

Hezi Fangong [2702 1311 0646 2396]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for second strike or nuclear counterattack.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:326) defines second strike as "the first counterblow of a war. (Generally associated with nuclear operations.)"

SERVICE ARM

兵 种

Bīngzhǒng [0365 4429]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:657)

The classification of the forces within an armed service. For example, the ground forces are divided into such service arms as infantry, artillery, the armored force, the engineer corps, and the railway corps. All of the service arms use their basic equipment for joint operations or independent operations.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SERVICE ARM INSIGNIA

兵 种 衍 号

Bīngzhǒng Fúhào [0365 4429 4569 5714]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:658)

The insignia used by armed forces implementing a military rank system to distinguish service arms.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SERVICE INSIGNIA

军 种 符 号

Jūnzhǒng Fúhào [6511 4429 4569 5714]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:853) The insignia used by armed forces implementing a military rank system to distinguish branches of service.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SERVICE RIBBON

略 表

Lüebiǎo [3970 5903]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3841) Simple insignia representing medals and decorations worn when the medals and decorations are not worn.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SQUAD

班

Bān [3803]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2770)

The smallest unit in the organization of the armed forces. It is subordinate to the platoon and varies in size according to its mission and equipment.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SQUADRON

中队

Zhōngduì [0022 7130]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3219)

An organization in the armed forces corresponding to a company.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:235) defines squadron as "1. an operational-tactical naval formation, including warships of one basic branch of the navy; 2. in some capitalist countries, the basic tactical formation of identical warships."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:342) defines squadron as "1. an organization consisting of two or more divisions of ships, or two or more divisions (Navy) or flights of aircraft. It is normally, but not necessarily, composed of ships or aircraft of the same type. 2. The basic administrative aviation unit of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force."

STAFF OFFICER

参谋

Cānmóu [0639 6180]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:1095)

A position in the armed forces. Staff officers are primary functionaries in command organizations at various levels. Based on the nature of their duties, they are designated as operations officers, reconnaissance officers, communications officers, etc.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

STANDING ARMY

常 备 军

Chángbēijūn [1603 0271 6511]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3809)

The armed forces which a nation normally maintains in peacetime.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

STRATEGIC DECEPTION

战 略 欺 骗

Zhanlüè Qipian [2069 3970 2952 7499]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:230) defines strategic military deception as "military deception planned and executed to result in foreign national policies and actions which support the originator's national objectives, policies, and strategic military plans."

STRATEGIC MISSILE

战 略 导 弹

Zhanlüe Daodan [2069 3970 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3095) A guided missile used to strike such enemy strategic targets as political and economic centers and military bases, and communications hubs.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

SUBMARINE WARFARE

潜 船 战

Qiantingzhan [3383 5312 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2263) The 1979 edition of Ci Hai defines a submarine as "a military craft for carrying out combat activity in the water. Its displacement runs from less than 100 tons to nearly 10,000 tons. It normally can reach a depth of 100 to 400 meters. It is easily concealed; has a rather high degree of self-sufficiency, endurance, and attack power; and can carry out independent combat activity at sea a long way from the base over a long

period of time. Its principal duty is striking enemy large- and medium-size ships and important coastal targets. It is also responsible for campaign reconnaissance. Submarines have special tanks to take in or drain off water for diving and flotation. They are divided into guided missile submarines and torpedo submarines, based on [their] armament; and nuclear submarines and conventional submarines, based on the powerplant.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:161) defines a submarine as "a combat vessel intended to cruise and conduct combat operations under water. A submarine is used to destroy surface warships, other submarines, and transport vessels, at sea and in bases (ports), and also to demolish important installations in a wide coastal zone of enemy territory. The basic combat feature of a submarine is the covert nature of its actions. According to their armament, submarines are divided into missile, torpedo, minelaying, and special categories. Special-purpose submarines include those in the radar-patrol, transport, amphibious-assault, and oil-tanker categories. According to their displacement, submarines may be classified as large, medium, or small; and according to their type of propulsion machinery, they may be identified as diesel-battery, gas-turbine, or atomic-powered."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:352) defines a submarine as "a warship designed for under-the-surface operations with the primary mission of locating and destroying ships, including other submarines. It is capable of various other naval missions. SSNs are nuclear powered. Designated as SS and SSN."

SURVIVABILITY

核子突击后的幸存性

Hézǐ Tūjī Hòu de Xìngcúnxìng [2702 1311 4499 2345 0683 4104 1630 1317 1840]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:326) defines second strike capability as "the ability to survive a first strike with sufficient resources to deliver an effective counterblow. (Generally associated with nuclear weapons.)"

SYSTEMATIC DRILL

制式教练

Zhishì Jiaolian [0455 1709 2403 4886]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:424)

Servicemen's training in formation maneuvers conducted according to regulations and serving as a basis for tactical and technical training. Systematic drill in the Chinese People's Liberation Army is conducted in accordance with Chinese People's Liberation Army Drill Regulations. The object is to impart to all the troops a uniform discipline with strict enforcement of orders and prohibitions; coordinated and consistent procedures; a united, intense, serious, and lively work style; and an indomitable spirit.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

See also:

MILITARY TRAINING

军事训练

Jūnshì Xunlian [6511 0057 6064 4886]

TNT EQUIVALENT

梯恩梯当量

Tǐ Èn Tǐ Dāngliàng [2748 1869 2748 3981 6852]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2999)

The amount of energy released in the explosion of a nuclear weapon measured in terms of the number of tons of TNT required to release an equal amount of energy.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:223) defines TNT equivalent of nuclear munitions as "the quantity of TNT whose explosive energy is equal to the energy which would be liberated in the explosion of a given nuclear charge. The TNT equivalent may be expressed in tons, in thousands of tons (kilotons), or in millions of tons (megatons)."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:373) defines TNT equivalent as "a measure of the energy release from the detonation of a nuclear weapon, or from the explosion of a given quantity of fissionable or fusionable material, in terms of the amount of trinitrotoluene which would release the same amount of energy when exploded."

TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT

战术陆空协同作战

Zhanshu Lù Kōng Xiétóng Zuòzhàn [2069 2611 7120 4500 0588 0681 0155 2069]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:361) defines tactical air support as "air operations carried out in co-ordination with surface forces which directly assist the land or naval battle."

TACTICAL DECEPTION

战术欺骗

Zhanshu Qīpiàn [2069 2611 2952 7499]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition of this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:230) defines tactical military deception as "military deception planned and executed by and in support of operational commanders against the pertinent threat, to result in opposing operational actions favorable to the originator's plans and operations."

TACTICAL MISSILE

战术导弹

Zhanshu Daodan [2069 2611 1418 1734]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3094) A guided missile used in direct support of the combat operations of the armed forces in a campaign or a battle.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

TACTICAL PLAN

战术计划

Zhanshu Jihua [2069 2611 6060 0439]

Definition

No formal definition available from the People's Republic of China.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

TAKEOFF ROCKET

起 飞 火 箭

Qifēi Huǒjiàn [6386 7378 3499 4628]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4457)

A rocket used to increase an aircraft's takeoff power. It can shorten the amount of runway required for aircraft takeoff and increase the aircraft's takeoff load capacity. Takeoff rockets can be either solid or liquid fuel rockets.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

THERMONUCLEAR WEAPON

热 核 武 器

Rèhé Wǔqì [3583 2702 2976 0892]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3591)

A nuclear weapon derived from the nuclear fusion reaction which occurs in the great heat produced by the detonation of an atomic bomb.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984:371) defines thermonuclear weapon as "a weapon in which very high temperatures are used to bring about the fusion of light nuclei such as those of hydrogen isotopes (e.g. deuterium and tritium) thereby causing a release of energy. The high temperatures required are obtained by means of fission."

For greater detail, see also:

HYDROGEN BOMB

氢 弹

Qing Dan [8641 1734]

TRAINING

教 练

Jiaolian [2403 4886]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:3362)

Training, including instruction and drills, which enables servicemen to master and become familiar with formations, combat maneuvers and technical operations.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms does not include a definition for this term.

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (1984) does not include a definition for training, but (p. 137) defines exercise as "a military maneuver or simulated wartime operation involving planning, preparation, and execution. It is carried out for the purpose of training and evaluation. It may be a combined, joint, or single-service exercise, depending on participating organizations."

UNJUST WARS

非 正 义 战 爭

Feizhengyi Zhanzheng [7236 2973 5030 2069 3630]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:4594)

All wars which are contrary to the basic interests of the popular masses and nationalities, such as wars to suppress popular revolutionary movements and wars of aggression to plunder and enslave the people of another country. Marxists oppose all unjust wars.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a specific definition for this term.

VANGUARD

尖 兵

Jiānbīng [1423 0365]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2550)

A security element at the company level or below dispatched by an army when it is on the march. One sent ahead is called a forward vanguard. One dispatched to the flank is called a flank vanguard. One dispatched to the rear is called a rear vanguard.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

VETERAN

退 伍 军 人

Tuìwǔ Jūnrén [6622 0124 6511 0086]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:1992)

Officers and enlisted personnel discharged from active duty. Veterans of the Chinese People's Liberation

Army who are assigned to work in such units as state organs or enterprises are called military personnel transferred to civilian work. Those who return to their home villages to engage in production and construction are called demobilized construction servicemen or demobilized servicemen. After servicemen are discharged they are assigned to reserve duties or released from military service.

Ci Hai (1979:2408)

1. A general reference to servicemen discharged from active duty.
2. In the Chinese People's Liberation Army, it specifically refers to soldiers who joined and were discharged from active duty after the compulsory military service system was put into effect.

Commentary

Neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

WAR (BATTLE) OF QUICK DECISION

速 決 戰

Sùjuézhàn [6643 0414 2069]

Definition

Ci Hai (1979:2409)

An operation of relatively short duration in which victory is quickly decided. This usually can be realized only when one side enjoys absolute superiority in strength along with correct guidance. During the Chinese Revolutionary War a general policy of protracted warfare on the strategic level with campaigns and battles of quick decision was adopted and campaigns and battles of quick decision were carried out.

Commentary

Since the war (battle) of quick decision is uniquely Chinese, neither the Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms nor the US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms includes a definition for this term.

The tactic of "wars (battles) of quick decision" was discussed by Mao Zedong in his work, Problems of Strategy in China's Revolutionary War, written in December 1936. It is an essential element in Mao Zedong's active defense.

WARFARE

战 争

Zhanzheng [2069 3630]

Definition

Ci Hai (1965:2588)

Armed conflict carried out for a definite political objective. It is the highest form of struggle between peoples, countries, classes, or political groups. War is a necessary product of the system of exploitation. The imperialist system is the source of modern warfare. Once the exploiting class and the imperialist system are eliminated, then war can be eliminated and lasting world peace realized.

Ci Hai (1979:3092-93)

Armed conflict carried out for a definite political objective. War came about only after the development of private property and classes and is one of the highest forms of struggle to resolve contradictions between classes, peoples, countries, or political groups. War is a continuation of politics and a product of the system of exploitation. Imperialism and hegemony are the sources of warfare in modern times. Only when the exploiting class, imperialism and hegemony are eliminated, can war finally be eliminated and mankind realize lasting peace. Warfare is divided into just wars and unjust wars.

Commentary

The Soviet Dictionary of Basic Military Terms (1965:48) defines war as "a sociohistorical phenomenon, characteristic of the antagonistic class society. In its social essence, war is a continuation of the policy of given self-interested powers and the ruling classes within them using forcible means. War is an armed conflict between states (coalitions of states) or between striving antagonistic classes within a state (civil war) to gain their economic and political ends. In the contemporary epoch, war is a complex social phenomenon, affecting all aspects of the life and national activity of the people, putting all their moral, political, economic, military, and organizational powers to the test. In war, both sides use ideological, economic, diplomatic, and other forms and means of strife. According to the politics of the classes concerned, wars may be subdivided into unjust (preda-

tory) wars and just wars. Just wars are waged to protect the interests of the working class and the toiling masses, to liquidate social and national oppression, and to protect national sovereignty against imperialist aggression. The most just wars are those waged in defense of the socialist fatherland."

The US Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms does not include a definition for this term.

Both the Chinese and the Soviets distinguish between just wars and unjust wars.

See also:

JUST WARS

正义战争

Zhèngyì Zhànzhēng [2973 5030 2069 3630]

UNJUST WARS

非正义战争

Feizhèngyì Zhànzhēng [7236 2973 5030 2069 3630]

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